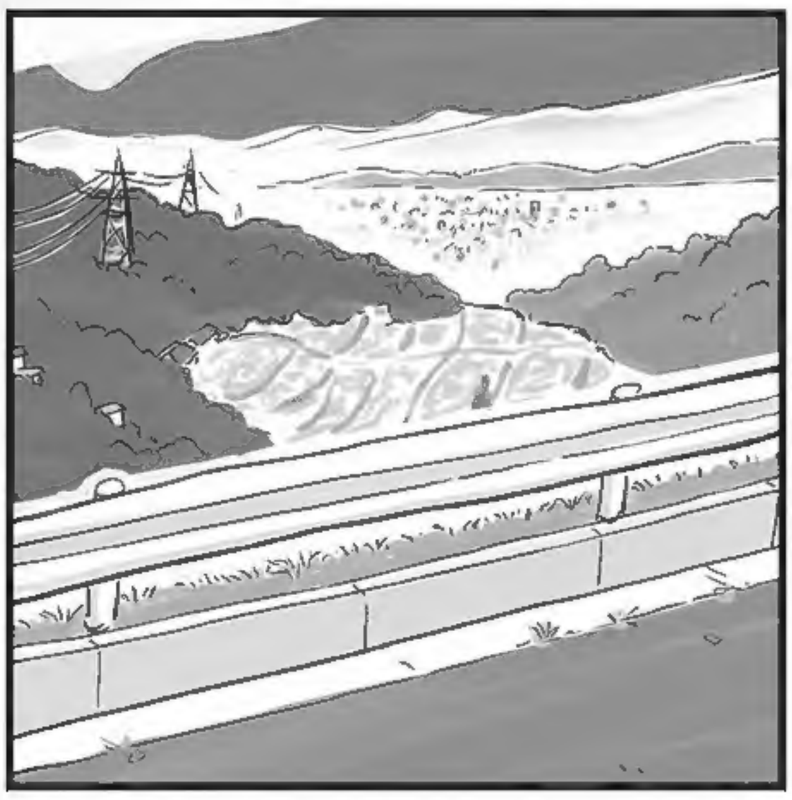
SUPER FIRE

2

Story by HIROKI TOMISAWA
Art by KENTARO HIDANO

I like cycling. Going down paths you've never gone down before and seeing unfamiliar sights is exhilarating. As soon as I come back home, I check the day's paths on Google Maps! I'm always indebted to Google Sensei.



HIROKI TOMISAWA

Hiroki Tomisawa is a Japanese manga author whose first serialized work, *Super Smartphone*, began running in *Weekly Shonen Jump* in 2021.

I'm always excited for the evolution of gadgets.

KENTARO HIDANO

Kentaro Hidano is a Japanese manga artist whose first serialized work, *ZIGA*, ran in *Weekly Shonen Jump* in 2018.

SUPER SMARTPHONE

VOLUME 2
SHONEN JUMP Edition

Story by
HIROKI TOMISAWA
Art by
KENTARO HIDANO

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RATED T TEEN

PARENTAL ADVISORY
SUPER SMARTPHONE is rated T for Teen and is recommended for ages 13 and up. This volume contains mild language.

SHONEN JUMP

SUPER SMARTPHONE

Contact

2

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Art by
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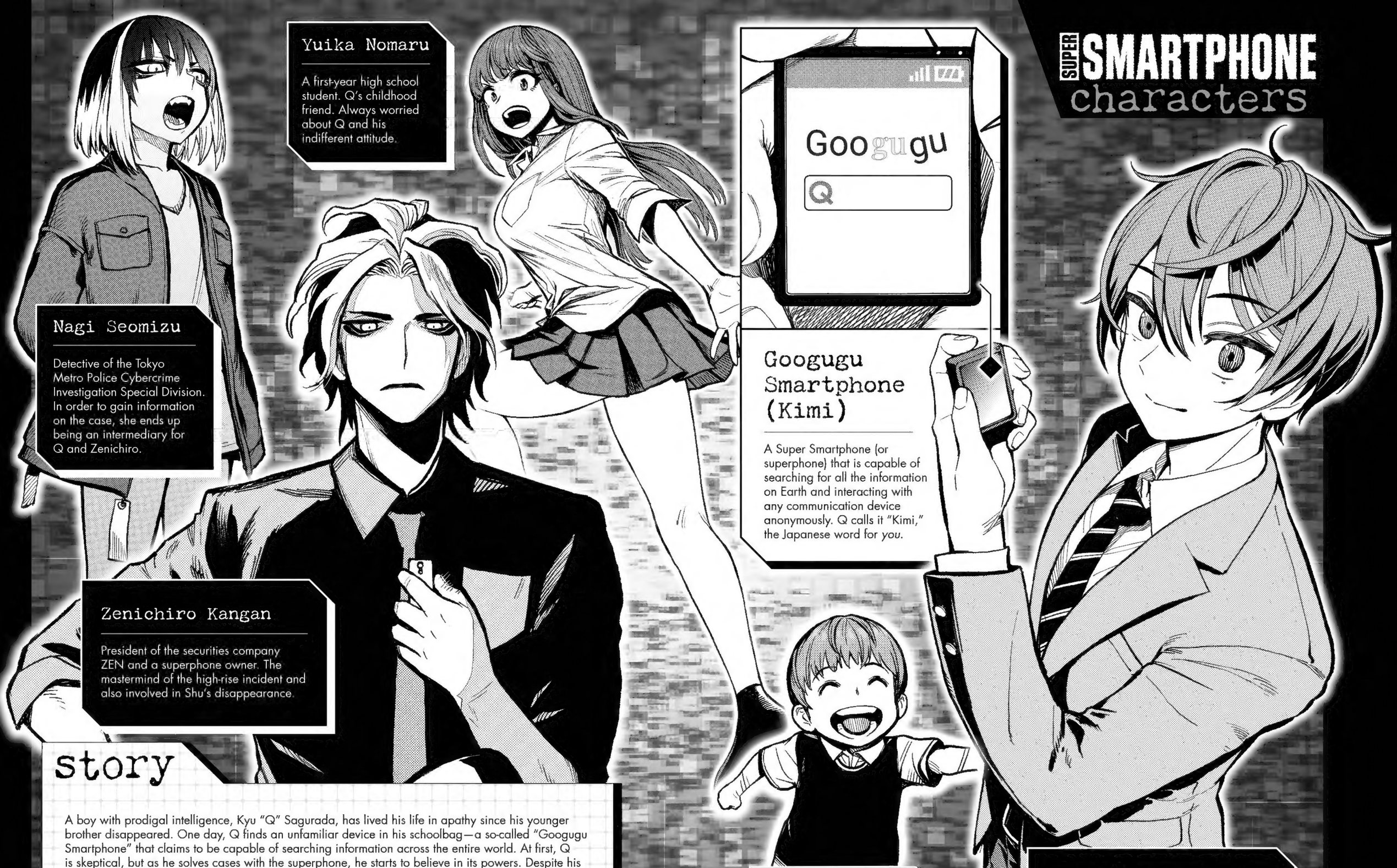
SUPER SMARTPHONE characters



Yuika Nomaru

A first-year high school student. Q's childhood friend. Always worried about Q and his indifferent attitude.

Nagi Seomizu

Detective of the Tokyo Metro Police Cybercrime Investigation Special Division. In order to gain information on the case, she ends up being an intermediary for Q and Zenichiro.

Googugu Smartphone (Kimi)

A Super Smartphone (or superphone) that is capable of searching for all the information on Earth and interacting with any communication device anonymously. Q calls it "Kimi," the Japanese word for *you*.

Zenichiro Kangan

President of the securities company ZEN and a superphone owner. The mastermind of the high-rise incident and also involved in Shu's disappearance.

Shu Sagurada

Q's younger brother. Cheery and bright, he was the polar opposite of Q. Hasn't been seen ever since he went missing seven years ago.

Kyu Sagurada (Q)

A first-year high school student. Nickname: Q. A prodigy, but has become apathetic ever since the disappearance of his younger brother, Shu. After he received the superphone, he has involved himself in various types of cases.

story

A boy with prodigal intelligence, Kyu "Q" Sagurada, has lived his life in apathy since his younger brother disappeared. One day, Q finds an unfamiliar device in his schoolbag—a so-called "Googugu Smartphone" that claims to be capable of searching information across the entire world. At first, Q is skeptical, but as he solves cases with the superphone, he starts to believe in its powers. Despite his attempts, he can't find any information about his brother's disappearance. In order to learn the truth, Q must accrue enough points to unlock that information!

When Q's childhood friend Yuika Nomaru becomes embroiled in a raid happening at a high-rise apartment building, Q rushes to save her. Q assumes that the culprit behind the high-rise incident is a superphone owner who is also responsible for his brother's disappearance. With this theory in mind, he decides to recruit the ace detective of the cybercrime squad, Nagi Seomizu. That's when superphone owner One reaches out to Q and ropes him and Seomizu into a three-way call. The mysterious caller switches on the video to reveal their identity—the president of securities company ZEN, Zenichiro Kangan?!

SUPER SMARTPHONE

Contact

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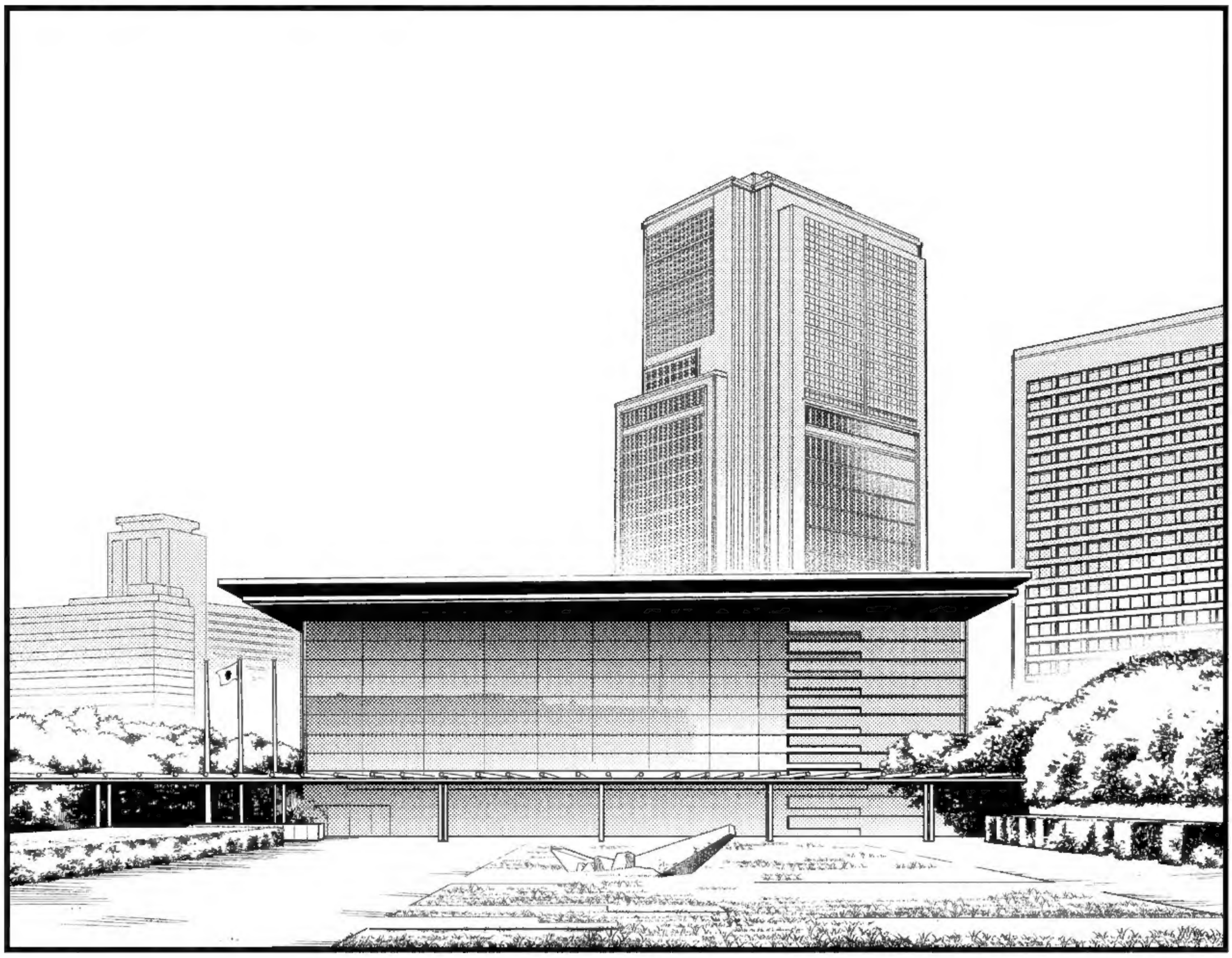
Chapter 8: The Second Group



RIOTS ARE A THREAT TO THE POLICE. A DELAYED RESPONSE IS A THREAT TO THE CABINET. LEAVING THE MASTERMIND IN THE WILD IS A THREAT TO THE NATION—USE WHATEVER MEANS YOU HAVE TO GET THIS SETTLED IN TWO WEEKS.

YOSHITAKE AKADO
PRIME MINISTER

NEXT.

SIR! FROM THE U.S. AMBASS-ADOR, WE HAVE...

YES... UNDER-STOOD, SIR.

SETTLE THE MATTER IN TWO WEEKS TO ENSURE THAT WE WIN THE LOWER HOUSE ELECTION AND THE CURRENT CABINET REMAINS IN POWER. THAT WILL ALLOW ME TO COVER FOR YOU. BUT IF YOU FAIL TO SETTLE THE MATTER, AND WE LOSE THE ELECTION, THERE WILL BE A NEW PRIME MINISTER, AND I WON'T BE AROUND TO COVER UP YOUR ACTIONS. AT THIS POINT, YOU AND I ARE BOTH IN THE SAME BOAT—HANDLE THE SITUATION IMMEDIATELY.

"USE WHAT-EVER MEANS," SIR?

SHF

PFF

...BUT MY DEFENSES ARE STRONG, SO I'M STILL FINE.

I ENDED UP REVEALING MYSELF EARLIER THAN PLANNED...

...

...UNTIL YOU WORSHIP ME—UNTIL YOU'RE TOTALLY DEPENDENT ON ME!

KEH HEH

PFF

KEH

KEH KEH KEH KEH

KEH HEH

PSEUDONYM, I'M GOING TO TAKE YOU!..

...AND THOROUGHLY BRAISE YOU IN MY GREATNESS...

HE'S THE SUPER-FAMOUS CHARISMATIC BUSINESSMAN WHO HEADS THE WORLD-LEADING CONGLOMERATE, THE KASE GROUP!

ZENTOKU KANGAN...

新 集英 JUMP BLUE RABBIT WORLD

ZENICHIRO KANGAN... YOU'RE KIDDING ME! ZENTOKU KANGAN'S ELDEST SON?!

WOULD YOU MIND IF I WERE TO STOP BY YOUR PLACE TO TALK TOMORROW?

OKAY...

MR. KANGAN.

ZENICHIRO IS A MEMBER OF HIGH SOCIETY.

I CAN'T EVEN IMAGINE WHAT KIND OF M.O. HE'D HAVE TO RISK HIS REPUTATION AND ATTACK THE HIGH-RISE.

...

PLING

I'VE SENT YOU MY PHONE NUMBER AND EMAIL ADDRESS.

AND OF COURSE. YOU'RE MORE THAN WELCOME TO VISIT.

PLEASE, DETECTIVE SEOMIZU, CALL ME ZENICHIRO.

TOMORROW, DETECTIVE SEOMIZU AND I WILL BE JOINING TOGETHER.

PSEUDONYM, DID YOU HEAR THAT?

LET'S DEFEAT THE HIGH-RISE INSTIGATOR TOGETHER!

INEXPERIENCE IS A RESULT OF YOUTH! NO NEED TO BE ASHAMED!

DON'T BE AFRAID. YOU'RE WELCOME TO JUMP INTO MY WAITING ARMS AS WELL!

LET'S RECLAIM PEACE IN JAPAN!

SIGH

...

SEE YOU LATER.

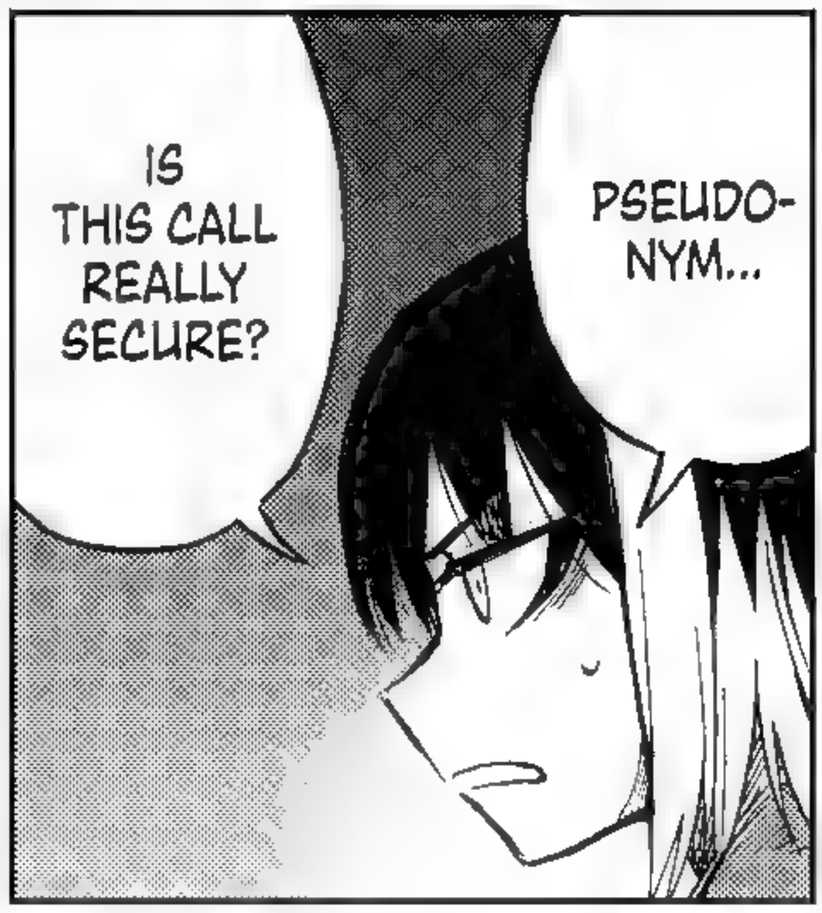
I'LL INTRODUCE YOU TO TWO OF MY BEST PARTNERS.

I'M SURE THAT EVEN *THEY* WILL MAKE YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND, PSEUDONYM.

I GET IT. *I'LL LEAVE.*

瀬 Seomizu 05:19 CHOOM

WHICH MEANS HE SHOULD BE ABLE TO EAVESDROP.
THERE'S NOTHING WRITTEN ABOUT THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF ANONYMOUS COMMUNICATION.
NO...
ZENICHIRO MIGHT BE LISTENING.


IS THIS CALL REALLY SECURE?
PSEUDONYM...

*Icon: SE

SEE YA.
...TO SORT THINGS OUT.
I NEED SOME TIME...
05:57

CONTACT ME AGAIN.
I SEE... IN THAT CASE, LET'S CALL IT QUITS FOR NOW.
SIGH

SLAM

SHE'S QUITE CONSCIOUS OF ZENICHIRO.

MS. SEO-MIZU...!

MMM...

...

DAMN.

HOT...

...

I NEED SOME TIME... TO SORT THINGS OUT. SEE YA.

I LOSE...

MMMM...

HE'S CUT OFF ALMOST ALL MY WAYS TO HIT HIM.

BUT HE MANAGED TO RECOVER HALF OF MS. SEOMIZU'S TRUST.

DID YOU? I THOUGHT YOU WERE MAKING GOOD HEADWAY.

PLUS, HE SPOKE LIKE HE'S CLOSING IN ON MY IDENTITY. IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE HE'S BLUFFING EITHER.

MOST IMPOR-TANTLY...

Violence

A super VIP. Strong security and well-versed in using thugs to do his bidding

Police

Would need a confession or circumstantial evidence to arrest a superphone-wielding criminal, but Zenichiro is too meticulous to leave such openings

Psychological Attacks

Psychological attacks to find and/or expose those hiding their identity are effective, but he's already revealed himself.

ZEN

IT'S CLEAR IN MY HEAD THAT ZENICHIRO KANGAN IS THE HIGH-RISE INSTIGATOR.

HMM...

WHICH MEANS I'VE LOST.

WHICH MEANS HE HAS THE UPPER HAND.

NOW, MS. SEOMIZU AND I CAN ONLY THINK ABOUT ZENICHIRO.

ズ SHF

ズ SHF

ズ SHF

ズ SHF

AH, I... SEE.

AWW...

HAVE YOU ALREADY GOTTEN OVER YOUR DEFEAT?

MM-HMM. I'VE GOT NO TIME TO WASTE.

TIME TO STRIKE BACK.

HUH?

ムク SWF

MMKAY.

I HAVE TO TAKE ZENICHIRO'S SUPERPHONE AWAY FROM HIM.

I NEED TO CATCH UP.

I'VE GOT A FEEL FOR ZENICHIRO NOW.

MMM...

IT PRETTY MUCH BOILS DOWN TO THIS.

Next, I'll check his wiki page on my computer...

Goo gu

A COMPETITION BETWEEN OWNERS.

IT'S BECAUSE ZENICHIRO IS THE *LAST* PERSON WHO SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO HAVE A SUPERPHONE.

TAP TAP TAP TAP

ZENICHIRO MIGHT JUST BE THE CULPRIT BEHIND SHU'S DISAPPEARANCE, BUT I'M NOT DOING THIS SOLELY FOR PERSONAL REASONS.

PLING PLING PLING

AND THE WAY TO KILL TWO BIRDS WITH ONE STONE IS...

OBTAINING MAX GOOGUGU POINTS OR SEIZING HIS SUPERPHONE.

THERE ARE TWO ROUTES TO BEAT HIM—

PLING PLING PLING

PLING PLING PLING

HELLO, ARE YOU THERE?

AAAH... HMM...

!

...THE KICHIJOUJI POLICE, SIR.

THIS IS...

HELLO, MR. KYU SAGURADA?

RIGHT, SO...

...YOU JUST SO HAPPENED TO BE PASSING BY THE HIGH-RISE AS THE MOB RAIDED IT?

KICHIJOUJI POLICE STATION

FOUND HIM! THERE'S Q!

MM, SHE'S HERE.

I MEAN, I DON'T THINK THAT YOU WERE PART OF THAT MOB, BUT I'D LIKE A MORE CREDIBLE EXPLANATION...

MMM?

MMM ...

HMM?

HARUKI, YOU'RE HERE TOO?

オイ HEEEY

Q!

AAAA TMP TMP TMP TMP

SORRY FOR THE WAIT!

Q IS OUR CLASSMATE, AND HE DEFINITELY WASN'T PART OF THAT MOB!

OFFICER, I'M A WITNESS!

THANKS SO MUCH! YOU'RE... YOU'RE REALLY A STAND-UP GUY, Q!

GLOMP

I HEARD YOU SAVED ANNA!

OH MAN!

IS THAT SO?

OH?

Yeah, that's right!

Q IS JUST AN UPSTANDING HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT WHO TOTALLY IGNORES SOCIAL CUES AND DOESN'T COMMUNICATE, AND YOU CAN NEVER FIGURE OUT WHAT'S GOING THROUGH HIS HEAD!

...I'LL NEED YOU TO SIGN HERE.

OKAY THEN, JUST AS A FORMALITY...

THANKS AGAIN, Q!

LIKE, REALLY! THANKS!

SEE YOU AT SCHOOL TOMORROW!

I JUST HOPE THAT ZENICHIRO DOESN'T SNIFF ME OUT BECAUSE OF THIS.

I GUESS THERE'LL BE A RECORD OF ME AT THE HIGH-RISE INCIDENT.

AND THANKS, YOU TWO.

MM-HMM.

I'M SUPPOSED TO HELP MS. SEOMIZU AND SCORE A LOT OF SEOMIZU POINTS.

I'LL CALL THIS PLAN...

HMM, I ALMOST FORGOT.

OH.

SHWWF

HELPING ANNA SCORED ME A LOT OF HARUKI POINTS, HUH?

I SEE. SO TAKE OUT THE HORSE, AND THE GENERAL WILL FALL?

"OPERATION SNATCH AWAY THE SUPERPHONES FROM ZENICHIRO'S LACKEYS AND DOUBLE-SCORE GOOGUGU POINTS AND SEOMIZU POINTS."

START!

Two Birds With One Stone!

Take superphones from Zenichiro's Lackeys

"Let's Get Physical! Smartphone Seizure" Route

Currently, Detective Seomizu's trust is teetering halfway.

Turn lackeys over to police!

Seomizu interrogates the lackeys and scores superphone info! Q scores her trust!

By working with the police and collecting evidence, they arrest Zenichiro!

"Googugu Max Points Competition" Route

Currently, Zenichiro has a wide point lead.

Morals don't apply to Zenichiro, so he's strong!

Big point score! (Maybe.)

Q makes a comeback!

Makes it to max points before Zenichiro!

Powers up to a Max Superphone! Capable of trumping normal superphones (Maybe)

Take superphone from Zenichiro!

THE SUPERPHONE MASTER IS TRYING TO MAKE THIS A COMPETITION BETWEEN SUPERPHONE HOLDERS, SO I'M SURE IT'LL NET BIG POINTS.

YES, THERE IS A CHANCE THAT REVOKING A SUPERPHONE WILL LEAD TO GAINING A LARGE AMOUNT OF POINTS, ISN'T THERE?

VICTORY!!

GOAL!

By both searching with the superphone and interrogating Zenichiro, I'll get all of the details behind Shu's case!

MMM...

OKAY, LET'S START SEARCH-ING.

AS YOU KNOW, THAT IS A FIELD THAT WE A.I. EXCEL IN THE MOST.

YES, OF COURSE.

Goo gu

HEY, KIMI. IF I INSTRUCT YOU ON HOW TO DO IT...

...YOU CAN TABULATE AND SORT DATA FOR ME, RIGHT?

PACHI...

...SLOTS?

YUP.

"PA-CHINKO PACHI-SLOTS."

"INDIVIDUAL AMOUNT RECEIVED IN A SINGLE DAY."

"LAST WEEK, FROM THURSDAY ONWARD."

"WITHIN JAPAN."

SPEED IS OF THE ESSENCE.

AND I NEED TO DO IT ASAP.

MY FIRST TARGET CAN BE ONE OF HIS LACKEYS— WHICHEVER IS EASIER TO FIND.

SINCE ZENICHIRO FOUND OUT ABOUT ME, I CAN DO THE SAME TO HIM.

...WE'RE GOING TO SEARCH FOR THEM AND MAKE THEM JOIN US.

AND THERE YOU HAVE IT. BEFORE PSEUDONYM CAN FIND THE HIGH-RISE INSTIGATOR...

I MAY BE GOING ABOUT THIS IN A ROUNDABOUT WAY, BUT I'D RATHER MY FIRST LEAD WORK OUT.

IMURA IS A CAPABLE MAN. I CAN DEPEND ON HIM.

I CAN'T IMAGINE THAT PSEUDONYM WOULD LEAVE ANY EVIDENCE AT THE HIGH-RISE.

MOURA, YOU KEEP COVERING THE HIGH-RISE INCIDENT.

MURAI, DO A THOROUGH INVESTIGATION OF INCIDENTS IN WESTERN TOKYO THAT OCCURED FROM THURSDAY ON.

RIGHT.

I'M COUNTING ON YOU, MURAI.

YOU HAVE MY WORD THAT I WILL LIVE UP TO YOUR EXPECTA-TIONS!

MR. ZENICHIRO! THANK YOU FOR PUTTING THIS TASK IN MY HANDS!

RIGHT.

I'M COUNTING ON YOU, MOURA.

I'LL BE RIGHT ON IT! ♫

TOWERING ズーン

THE HIGH-RISE, YEAH?

...

WAIT A SEC! HUH?! COULD THAT BE IT?!

MAYBE IT'S A FAKE NAME... A PSEUDO... NYM?

HUH?!

THAT'S A PRETTY WEIRD NAME, ISN'T IT?

STILL, PSEUDO-NYM?

...

BUT I WONDER... WHY WOULD HE USE A PSEUDONYM?

I GET IT. THAT'S PRETTY STRAIGHT-FORWARD, YEAH? ♫

OH! PSEUDONYM IS A PSEUDONYM!

NORENASHI MOURA

GOOGUGU SMARTPHONE OWNER

THAT DIDN'T TAKE LONG, DID IT?

THIS GUY IS A SUPERPHONE OWNER.

FOUND HIM.

OKAY, THEN...

LET'S GET CRACKING.

TIME FOR MY FIRST MEETING WITH ANOTHER SUPERPHONE OWNER.

Kyu Sagurada
165 cm / Blood Type A
Born Dec. 2, 2006 (Sagittarius) / Age 15
Birthstone: Black coral
Gem language: "Calm wit"

Belongs to: Kouenji High School, Class 1-2
Likes: Stuff he doesn't know, natural science
Dislikes: Routine work
Good at: Being by himself
Bad at: Courtesy smiles

SARA DEIWA-SAKI.

TAIJI BINGO.

NAGI SEOMIZU.

ICHIRO HANA-BUSA.

SANTA SHII-TANI.

Chapter 9: First Owner Search

WITH MY COMPLETE AUTHORITY, THE AFORE-MENTIONED INDIVIDUALS...

I EXPECTED NO LESS FROM MR. UNAI!

STILL...A NORMAL SUPERIOR WOULDN'T BELIEVE IN THEIR SUBORDINATES AND INSTEAD STRIP AWAY EVEN MORE OF THEIR ALREADY-LIMITED RIGHTS!

U-UN-LIMITED?! ESSENTIALLY, EXTRALEGAL!

GOTTA SAY, THAT'S MAKING ME TENSE...

BASICALLY, THIS MEANS THAT THE COMMISSIONER WILL COVER UP FOR ANY MISTAKES WE MAKE.

...WILL BE HEREBY BE GIVEN...

... *UNLIMITED AUTHORITY* IN THE INVESTIGATION OF THE HIGH-RISE INCIDENT.

!

IN THAT CASE, I WILL IMMEDIATELY FORFEIT COMMAND TO SEOMIZU.

CHIEF NOGUMA, I ENTRUST COMMAND TO YOU.

YES, SIR.

I EXPECT YOU ALL TO ABIDE BY YOUR SENSE OF JUSTICE ...

...AND EXPEND ANY MEANS NECESSARY TOWARD APPREHENDING THE HIGH-RISE INSTIGATOR.

...AND BECOME HEROES!

YEAAAH

WE'LL SAVE JAPAN FROM DANGER...

RIGHT?

OUR LEADER IS SEOMIZU! JUST LIKE ALWAYS.

LET'S GIVE IT OUR ALL.

NOTHING'S CHANGED.

FWOOOO

...TO A MINIMUM, OKAY?

BUT TRY TO KEEP CASUAL-TIES...

YEEEAH

YEAH...

MM-HMM, SURE.

CARE TO EXPLAIN YOUR LOGIC?

WHY RUN A SEARCH ON PACHI-SLOTS?

THE SIMPLE ANSWER IS...

...MAKE MONEY.

AND THAT SHOULD LEAVE A PAPER TRAIL THAT EVEN I SHOULD HAVE NO PROBLEMS FOLLOWING.

AN A.I. SUCH AS MYSELF WOULDN'T KNOW.

NO CLUE.

KIMI, WHAT DO YOU THINK IS THE FIRST THING A NORMAL PERSON WOULD DO WITH A SUPERPHONE IF THEY OBTAINED ONE?

...ASSUMING THAT T HAS BEEN MAKING MONEY FOR THE PAST FOUR DAYS.

FEEL FREE.

FOR NOW, LET'S CALL ZENICHIRO'S TOADY HERE "T."

SO ...

I'M GOING TO PROCEED WITH MY INVESTI-GATION...

...BUT IN TERMS OF A GET-RICH-QUICK SCHEME THAT'S OPEN TO ANYONE IN JAPAN, YOU HAVE EITHER GAMBLING OR STOCKS.

THIS LOGIC ONLY APPLIES TO ADULTS ...

AND YOU CAN SPLIT THOSE INTO THREE BROAD CATEGORIES.

HOW ARE YOU SPLITTING THESE?

AND ③ ... DEPENDS ON THE SETTINGS OF THE MACHINE.

② DEPENDS ON TIMING AND LUCK. OBVIOUSLY, EVEN A SUPERPHONE CAN'T SEE INTO THE FUTURE.

① DEPENDS ON THE PHYSICAL CONDITION OF PEOPLE AND ANIMALS. NOT EVEN A SUPERPHONE CAN ASCERTAIN THAT.

YOU CAN SEARCH FOR THAT.

I SEE.

With knowledge, capital, and a securities account, insider trading would work.

③

PACHINKO AND PACHISLOTS.

②

THE LOTTERY.

①

HORSE RACES, CYCLING RACES, BOAT RACES, AUTO RACES, INVESTMENTS, FOREX, DIGITAL CURRENCY, AND SO ON.

2

WE'LL LOOK FOR PEOPLE WHO'VE MADE BANK WITH PACHINKO AND PACHISLOTS.

SUPER-PHONES ARE BEST EQUIPPED TO DEAL WITH MACHINES.

SO IF A SIMPLE-MINDED SUPERPHONE HOLDER WERE TRYING TO MAKE CASH ON THE DOUBLE, THEN THEY SHOULD HAVE LANDED ON ③ NATURALLY.

HM?

... STOOD.

UNDER ...

YES.

Plea ...

Plea ..

MMM, SORRY FOR NOT NOTICING SOONER.

IF YOU'D PLEA ...

PLEA ...

PLEA ...

IT'S T- TIME.

YOU H- HAVEN'T.

HM, THE BATTERY'S DYING, HUH?

COME TO THINK OF IT, I HAVEN'T CHARGED YOU ONCE IN THE PAST FOUR DAYS, RIGHT?

• • •

YOU'RE ALL CHARGED UP? IT'S ONLY BEEN EIGHT SECONDS.

YES, FOUR SECONDS WAS ENOUGH.

HUH?

THAT WAS FINE ELECTRICITY. THANK YOU FOR THE MEAL.

THE SLIGHT EMC NOISE GIVES IT A SUPERB ACCENT...

AAAH ...

Goo · gu

AH, ***HOLD UP!***

HMM, TALK ABOUT ENERGY SAVING ...

MY BATTERY CAPACITY ...

YES.

Goo g l gu

...IS 2 mAh.

A NORMAL SMARTPHONE WOULDN'T LAST ***TWO DAYS*** WITH 4,000 mAh.

HM? JUST 2 mAh OVER FOUR DAYS?

...SO MY BATTERY ONLY HOLDS 2 mAh.

I DON'T USE MUCH ELECTRICITY TO BEGIN WITH...

NOT THAT I KNOW.

IT'S A SUPER BATTERY, ISN'T IT?

Q Is Kimi an otherworl smartphone that ign the laws of physics?

Search Results

403 Forbidden

HMM, NOW I'M CURIOUS...

NOT SURE. WHO CAN TELL FOR CERTAIN?

...SO YOU'RE BREAKING THE LAW OF CONSERVATION OF ENERGY. KIMI, ARE YOU SOME SMARTPHONE FROM ANOTHER WORLD THAT IGNORES THE LAWS OF PHYSICS?

YOUR SPEECH AND LIGHT PRODUCTION ALONE WOULD USE UP MORE THAN 2 mAh...

J + J

2mAh (× Voltage Rating 3.6

PLING

OH.

SEEMS LIKE I'VE SCORED QUITE A LOT OF POINTS.

1P

harged Sma

otal 40P

HMM, I HAVEN'T BEEN PAYING ATTENTION.

LET'S LOOK AT THE HISTORY...

ogugu Poi

1P

Charged Smartph

Total 40P

I GOT A POINT FOR CHARGING YOU?

AS ALWAYS, THESE STANDARDS MAKE NO SENSE.

IT PROBABLY MEANS THAT YOU CAN'T SCORE EASY POINTS BY REPEATING THE SAME ITEM OVER AND OVER AGAIN.

...THIS "ITEM ENDED (0 P)" NOTE IS VALUABLE INFORMATION.

HE COULD ALREADY HAVE 80 POINTS!

HOW MANY POINTS DOES ZENICHIRO HAVE NOW?

IT'S JUST A GUESS, BUT IF HE HAS AS MANY POINTS AS ME PLUS THE POINTS HE GAINED FROM THE HIGH-RISE INCIDENT, THEN HE COULD EASILY HAVE DOUBLE MY TOTAL...

IN WHICH CASE, I GUESS IF YOU CAN GET 50 POINTS FOR REVOKING SOMEONE'S SUPERPHONE, THEN I CAN MAKE A COMEBACK...

05/27/2022 (1...)
5...Invaded privacy of general public
4...Societal impact
16...Societal impact
39...Solved societal problem (small)

Stage 2 (12 P cleared)
Unlocked: Max Point Condi

HMM...

THERE'S A LOT HERE TO BE CONCERNED ABOUT, BUT...

P)
39···Searched for people's loca
earch for other owner (2 P)
:41···Sent group transmission (6 P)
:53···Blackmailed general public (3 P)
Total: 24 P

05/28/2022 (Sat.)
2:41···Situation with many lives involved (over 100)
20:02

Stage 3 (24 P cleared)
Unlocked: Googugu Security

Total: 36 P

05/29/2022 (Sun.)
11:21··· ~~Solved societal problem (small)~~
Item ended (0 P)
12:20···Spoke with owner (3 P)
7:04···Charged Superphone (1 P)
Total: 40 P

Q

Within Japan
Last week, from Thursday onwar
Individual amount received in a single day
Pachinko pachislots
Top 20
Sort amounts in descending order
Order, Individual Names, Amount, Establishment Name, Date & Time

SEARCH!

THE TOP 20 IN EARNINGS ACROSS THE COUNTRY...

OH WELL.

I'LL GET BACK TO SEARCHING FOR T.

Search Results

2nd	YOSHIZU, Ryokan	¥263,200	Mamma
3rd	KAK[illegible]dai	¥198,800	Parte
4th	G[illegible]	¥175,400	Eeto
5th		¥169,800	Omiku

I FOUND THEM IN ONE TRY JUST BECAUSE THEY COULDN'T KEEP THEMSELF IN CHECK.

IN-DEED.

T MUST BE PRETTY DUMB.

ALSO ...

THE BIGGEST WINNER IN THE NATION IS THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN'T BE SEARCHED, WHICH MEANS THEY HAVE A SUPERPHONE.

ALTHOUGH I DID ASSUME IT WOULD WORK THIS WAY, GIVEN MY CLASS REGISTER.

If every number under Q's class number of 16 were to be bumped up...

-2 Student Lis
mber Face

	E, Asahi (Fe
	na (Female)
13	KOBUNE, Rika (Femal
14	SAITO, Josephine (Fe
15	SAKAMOTO, Yu (Fema
17	SHIMIZU, Yume (Fem
18	SHINZAWA, Shugo (M
19	SHINTA, Shunsuke (Male)
20	SUZUKI, Sora (Female)
21	SOMA, Nana (Female)
22	TAKI, Karen (Female)
23	TANATA, Satoru (Male)
24	TOKIOKA, Mima
25	[illegible]ensuke
26	NARUTA, K
27	NISHIYAMA,
28	NEMOTO, Ha
29	NOMARU, Yu

...the number of every person after him would be false.

GOOGUGU SEARCHES TRY TO KEEP ONE LIE FROM SNOWBALLING INTO ANOTHER.

I'M LUCKY.

...THEN I COULDN'T HAVE USED THIS WAY TO SEARCH FOR T.

...WHERE IT TOTALLY IGNORED THE FIRST PLACE RECORDS OF A SUPERPHONE HOLDER, BUMPED THE REST OF THE ITEMS UP A SPOT, AND THEN RETURNED A BOGUS LIST...

IF THE GOOGUGU SEARCH WORKED IN A DIFFERENT WAY...

THAT'S A RELIEF.

IT'S JUST LIKE YOU SAID BEFORE.

"GOOGUGU SEARCHES ARE NEITHER FALSE NOR ERRONEOUS."

"YES."

...ALWAYS RETURN THE TRUTH!

GOOGUGU SEARCHES ...

...TO FIND A PARLOR SHARKED BY THE NUMBER ONE IN JAPAN.

SEARCH!

NEXT, USE THE AMOUNT WE JUST LEARNED AS A LEAD...

ALL RIGHT, LET'S KEEP GOING.

YES.

OF COURSE.

ithin Japan Last wee
from Thursday on Pachin
Pachislot Parlor
Estimated value of all prizes
given to one person in one day
equalling ¥263,201
Establishment Name, Date/Time,
Monetary Value

I'VE IDENTIFIED THE PARLOR T WENT TO, THE TIME THEY WENT, AND THE AMOUNT THEY WON.

Search Results

05/26/2022 (Thu.) 5:29 PM

88 Pachi Pachi Derngo Narimasu Branch

¥516,600

MMKAY.

WHICH MEANS...

...BUT SEARCHING BASED ON THE PACHISLOT PARLOR ALLOWED ME TO ACCESS IT.

WHEN I USED THE SUPERPHONE AS AN ANGLE OF APPROACH, THE INFO WAS BLOCKED...

OKAY, THIS IS WHAT I EXPECTED TOO.

IT SEEMS WE ARE STEADILY CLOSING IN ON THEM.

...THEN I CAN ZERO IN ON THEM WITHOUT BEING CAUGHT IN GOOGUGU SECURITY'S NET!

As Assumed by Q!

How Googugu Security Works

Googugu Security Target Areas

*However, depending on the path used for the search, a publicly attributable area will sometimes not be blocked.

IF I WORK OUT A DIFFERENT PATH TO SEARCH FOR SUPERPHONE HOLDERS...

Hm m m...

Q, let's proceed.

NONE OF THAT INFO EXISTS ANY-WHERE.

STUFF LIKE "THIS THREE-DIMENSIONAL SPACE IS KYU'S ROOM"...

...OR "KYU IS THIS NOTE'S OWNER."

BUT HOW DOES IT MAKE THE DISTINC-TION?

Stop sleeping, Bucko!

...AND CONFIRMED THAT BOTH UNDER GOOGUGU SECURITY'S PROTECTION.

EVEN THE NOTE YUIKA PASSED TO ME THAT SAID, "STOP SLEEPING, BUCKO!" WAS PROTECTED.

① THINGS IN MY ROOM.

② THINGS I WALK AROUND WITH.

YESTERDAY, AS A TEST, I CHECKED TWO CATEGORIES OF ITEMS ...

VERY SPECIAL TAGS.

TAGS TO DISTINGUISH OWNERS AND PROTECT THEM WITH SECURITY.

THAT'S WHY I THINK THAT SOMEWHERE IN A SPECIAL INFOSPHERE THAT ONLY GOOGUGU PHONES CAN ACCESS...

...WE'RE MARKED WITH TAGS!

SEARCH!

Q 88 Pachi Pachi Derngo
Narimasu Branch
05/26/2022 (Thu.)
around 5:29 P.M.
Security camera footage
Near prize exchange counter
Near exit/entrance

OKAY, NEXT.

SECURITY CAMERA FOOTAGE WHEN T WAS AT THE PRIZE EXCHANGE...

...I GUESS THAT'S BOUND TO HAPPEN.

IF YOU SLAP ¥510,000 WORTH OF BALLS ON THE TABLE...

T IS SURROUNDED BY A BUNCH OF ONLOOKERS.

2022-05-26 17:29:34

HM?

IN THAT CASE, I'D SAY HE'S A MAN. ALSO...

JUDGING BY HOW PEOPLE ARE LOOKING *UP* AT THEM, THEY MUST BE VERY TALL— WELL PAST 190 CM.

...BUT IT'S SUPER OBVIOUS THAT THEY'RE STANDING RIGHT THERE.

T MAY BE HIDDEN BY SECURITY BECAUSE THEY'RE MARKED WITH A SPECIAL TAG...

OH? BUT THIS ISN'T OVER YET...

THAT JUST MEANS THE INTERESTING PART IS OVER...

MMM...

HUH?

AAH...

ARE YOU A *CHILD*, Q?

AW, IT WAS JUST GETTING FUN TOO! SHOOT!

THIS PUZZLE IS ONLY GONNA TAKE TWO MOVES TO SOLVE...

MM, MM...

ISN'T IT A GOOD THING THAT YOU HAVE MORE CLUES TO GO OFF OF?

HE'S HANGING OUT WITH SOME FRIENDS?

All right, go!

THE METHOD IS SIMPLE.

① SINGLE OUT A PERSON IN T'S FRIEND GROUP WHO DOESN'T SEEM TO LIKE T VERY MUCH.

② PRETEND TO BE THE POLICE AND THREATEN THAT PERSON INTO DIVULGING ALL THE INFO ON T.

YOUR METHOD IS DELIGHT-FULLY DARK, Q.

Okay.

TIME FOR THE FINAL TWO MOVES.

You bounce back quickly as always.

I KNOW THAT ALL OF HIS FRIENDS ARE STUDENTS AT NARIMASU HIGH SCHOOL FROM AN IMAGE SEARCH OF THEIR FACES.

I'LL TAKE A PEEK AT THEIR LIME MESSAGES AND...

NOW I'VE PICKED OUT A TARGET.

KIMI, TURN ON THE VOICE CHANGER. USE LOSSY COMPRESSION TO MAKE MY VOICE BURLY, THEN MAKE AN ANONYMOUS CALL.

ROGER.

Hum! Hum!

MM, HELLO, IS THIS MR. ENAMI? I'M SUZUKI WITH JUVENILE AFFAIRS AT THE NARIMASU POLICE DEPART-MENT.

I HAVE INFO THAT SAYS YOU USED A LARGE AMOUNT OF MONEY THAT YOUR **FRIEND** OBTAINED THROUGH HIGHLY ILLEGAL MEANS...

BA-BMP

BA-BMP

BA-BMP

OKAY, I FOUND T.

THIS GUY IS A SUPERPHONE OWNER.

THAT DIDN'T TAKE LONG, DID IT?

THERE-FORE, YOU'LL BE CHARGED AS AN ACCESS-ORY TO...

NO, WAIT! I DIDN'T USE ANY-THING!

I-I'LL TELL YOU WHAT-EVER YOU WANT!

FIRST OFF, THE GUY YOU'RE LOOKING FOR...

OKAY, LET'S GET CRACKING.

TIME FOR MY FIRST MEETING WITH ANOTHER SUPERPHONE OWNER.

...A THIRD-YEAR AT NARIMASU HIGH.

THE SUPERPHONE OWNER THAT'S HIGHLY LIKELY TO BE ZENICHIRO'S TOADY, T, IS ACTUALLY...

SOMEONE BY THE NAME OF ***NORENASHI MOURA.***

Narimasu High 3-3
Norenashi Moura
TEL
145 cm
DUMB
Habitual splitter
Gained Smartphone
THU. Big score at pachislots → splurged it away
Fri. Got large sum of money again
Breaking and Entering
Spent all
Family also messed up?

SWSH

IF I JUST HAND HIM OVER TO THE COPS, HE'LL GO DOWN AS ONE OF THE HIGH-RISE INSTIGATOR'S LACKEYS, AND HIS LIFE'LL BE OVER.

...MAY BE A DUMB CRIMINAL, BUT HE'S NOT HOPE-LESSLY EVIL.

MOURA ...

MMM ...

WHAT'S THE MATTER, Q?

...

...AND IS ON THE VERGE OF RUINING HIS OWN LIFE IN JUST FOUR DAYS.

A PERSON WHO SHOULD'VE NEVER HAD A SUPERPHONE GOT AHOLD OF ONE...

?

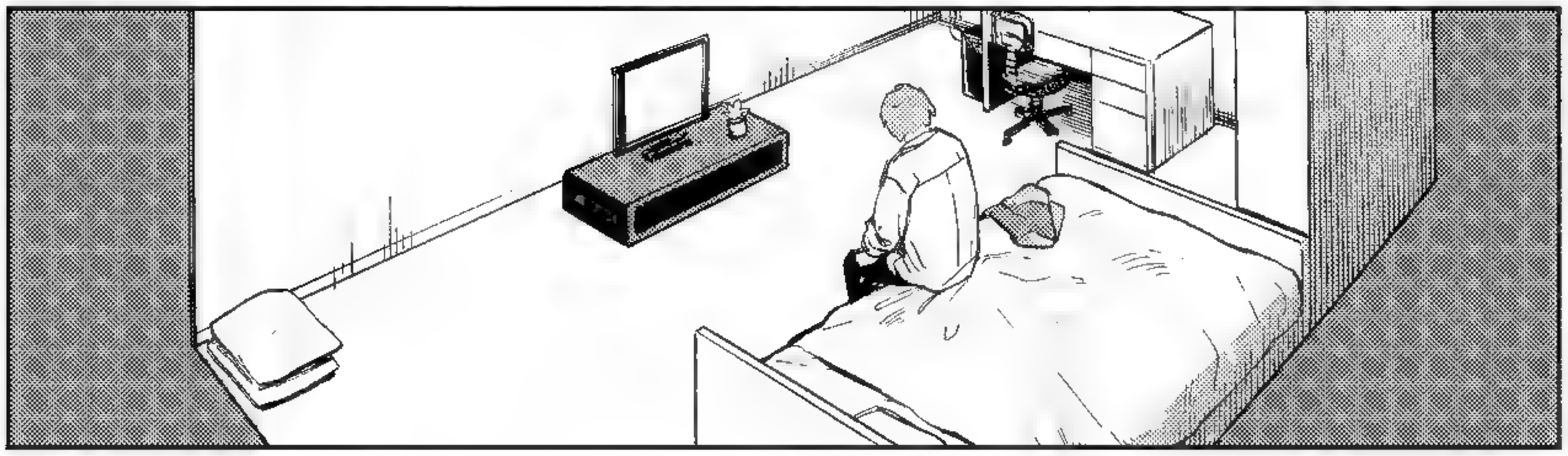
...AND HE'LL LIKELY BE AN ACCOMPLICE TO EVEN BIGGER CRIMES.

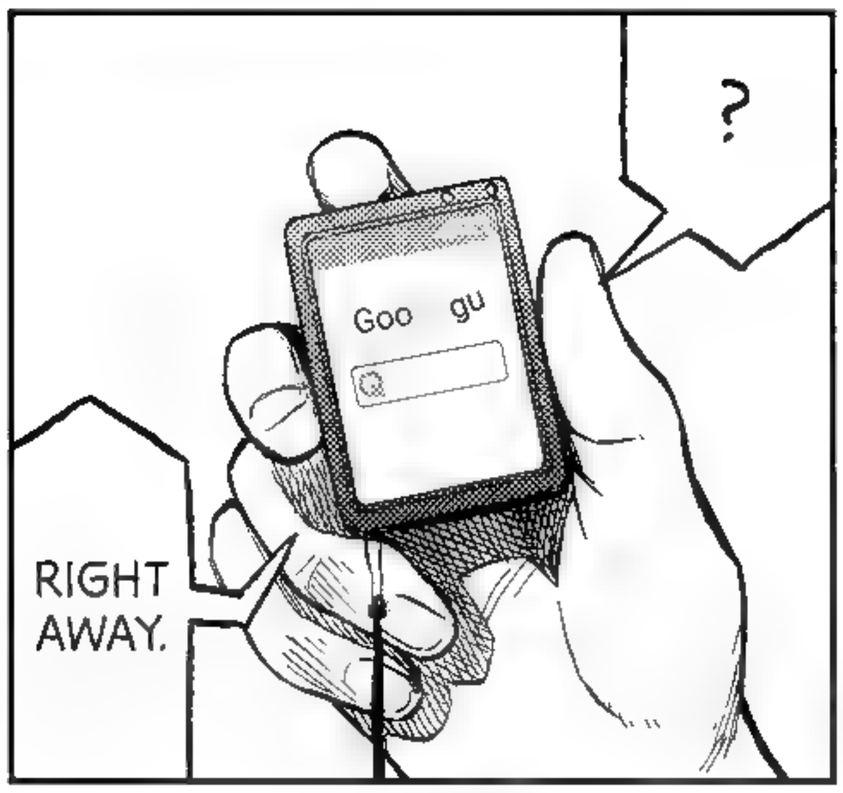
THEN HE PROBABLY JOINED ZENICHIRO WITHOUT REALLY KNOWING HIS IDENTITY...

HE GOT A TASTE FOR CRIME FROM SHARKING PACHISLOT PARLORS AND ABUSED HIS SUPERPHONE TO ROB PLACES.

MOURA...

TOKYO WORLD FESTIVAL





USE THE VOICE CHANGER, AND MAKE THE CALL ANONY-MOUS.

GET ME THE ***COLLEAGUE*** NEAREST TO DETECTIVE SEOMIZU AT THE MOMENT.

GET ME MS. SEOMIZU. NO, WAIT...

HEY, NAGI.

...

BMP

HELLO? THIS IS **THE INFORMANT.**

COULD YOU GIVE THE PHONE TO DETECTIVE SEOMIZU, WHO'S SITTING RIGHT NEXT TO YOU?

YES, HANABUSA HERE.

MM, THE NAME'S **PSEUDONYM.**

NEED SOMETHING AS A PASSWORD. STATE YOUR NAME.

QUITE PRUDENT, Q.

THIS IS INDEED A BETTER OPTION THAN DIRECTLY CALLING DETECTIVE SEOMIZU.

I SEE. COMMUNICATING THROUGH MR. HANABUSA'S PHONE WAS A PRECAUTION TO DIMINISH THE RISK OF MR. ZENICHIRO EAVESDROPPING ON THEIR CONVERSATION.

Goo gu

ooo

...SO COULD YOU OFFER HIM PROTECTION?

I WANT HIM TO GET BACK TO A NORMAL LIFE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE...

SO COULD YOU USE YOUR AUTHORITY TO STRIKE A PLEA BARGAIN FOR HIM?

SHUDDR

I'M GOING TO HAND AN **OWNER** OVER AND MAKE HIM TALK.

...WILL BE THE MOMENT...

OF COURSE I WILL!

AND SO THE MOMENT YOU TURN IN THIS "OWNER" OR WHOEVER....

PSEUDONYM! CONSTANTLY PLAYING INTO YOUR HAND REALLY PISSES ME OFF, BUT...

THIS COMES JUST AS I WAS GIVEN UNLIMITED AUTHORITY FOR THIS INVESTIGATION...

...MY TRUST.

...THAT YOU GAIN...

ANYTHING I CAN USE AS A WEAPON!

...I NEED ANY SCRAP OF INFO I CAN GET.

BEFORE I MEET ZENICHIRO TOMORROW...

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

MM, THAT'S WHAT I WANTED.

I TOLD YOU THAT I WOULD ***GO TO YOU***, DIDN'T I?

PSEUDO-NYM...

BUT IF I SAY THAT, THEN I ASSUME...

...ONCE I CATCH HIM BREAKING AND ENTERING.

I won't be doing much of anything really.

I SAY ALL THAT, BUT I'M JUST GOING TO GET MS. SEOMIZU TO GO ARREST MOURA...

AWESOME! WITH THAT OFF MY SHOULDERS, I CAN GO MAKE FIRST CONTACT WITH THE SUPERPHONE OWNER NOW!

Mmm!

IF YOU'RE COMING, THEN...

...THE MOST CONVENIENT STOP WOULD BE ***MOURA***, WOULDN'T IT?

...IT'LL MAKE YOU ***WANT TO COME***, RIGHT?

WELL, PSEUDONYM?

SO WHAT WILL IT BE, PSEUDO-NYM?

Yuika Nomaru
165 cm / Blood Type O
Born Nov. 7, 2006 (Scorpio) / Age 15
Birthstone: Amber
Gem language: "Embrace, great love"

Belongs to: Kouenji High School, Class 1-2 & Student Council
Likes: Writing letters
Dislikes: Excluding people from a group
Good at: Being a busybody, sports
Bad at: Movie theaters (because you can't talk)

Chapter 10: Moura on the First Day

VROOM

JUST LIKE EVERY KING THAT HAS EVER LIVED WOULD ADMIRE RARE AND MYSTERIOUS ITEMS...
...I WANT TO TRAIN PSEUDONYM AND KEEP HIM BY MY SIDE

FIND HIM AND BRING HIM TO ME, IMURA.

I'M COUNTING ON YOU.

"THERE ARE NO ABSOLUTES IN THIS WORLD. THE ONLY ABSOLUTE IS THAT THERE ARE NO ABSOLUTES."

THAT IS WHY I NEVER USE THE WORD "ABSOLUTE" OR ANY OF ITS PERMUTATIONS.

HOWEVER, RIGHT NOW, I WILL BREAK MY OWN RULES AND USE IT.

MR. ZENICHIRO...

THERE'S A SAYING I LIKE.

...
ABSOLUTE.

THE ACT OF IMPLEMENTING YOUR ORDERS IS...

I WILL *ABSOLUTELY* CATCH PSEUDONYM FOR YOU.

...
ABSOLUTE.

MR. ZENICHIRO, TO ME, YOUR ORDERS ARE...

TADAYOSHI IMURA
GOOGLIGU
SMARTPHONE OWNER

NEED WATER...

WSH

PLIP

I BELIEVE IN YOU, IMURA.

I'LL BE WAITING.

KLIK

KLIK

KLIK

"I WANT TO TRAIN PSEUDONYM AND KEEP HIM BY MY SIDE."

PW AH!

STILL...

WHY IS MR. ZENICHIRO SO TRANS-FIXED BY PSEUDO-NYM?

GLUG

GLUG

GLUG

GLUG

GLUG

GLUG

GLUG

GLUG

GLUG

IN THAT CASE, I *WILL* MEET HIS EXPECTA-TIONS.

HIS SUBTLE REMARK HELPED BOOST MY COMPETITIVE SPIRIT!

HE'S TRYING TO *MOTIVATE ME*, ISN'T HE?

MR. ZEN-ICHIRO IS A GENIUS!

I'VE GOT IT!

I WILL PROVE THAT *I'M* NO. 2 AROUND HERE.

THEN, I, TADAYOSHI IMURA, SHALL BE MR. ZENICHIRO'S IMMOVABLE RIGHT-HAND MAN.

PSEUDO-NYM.

I'LL BRING YOU TO YOUR KNEES AND MAKE SURE YOUR PLACE IS *UNDER* ME.

HMM? PRETTY SURE ZENICHIRO FOUND HIM FIRST BECAUSE HE'S SUCH AN EASY TARGET.

CAN YOU SAY FOR CERTAIN THAT THIS MR. MOURA YOU'RE ABOUT TO LOOK FOR IS MR. ZENICHIRO'S LACKEY?

I SEE.

THAT'S MY THEORY, AT LEAST.

AND THE FACT THAT HIS SUPERPHONE WASN'T REVOKED MEANS IT'S VERY LIKELY THAT ZENICHIRO MADE HIM A LACKEY INSTEAD.

GROOOWL

GRIN

IT'S LATE. WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

DINNER IS READY, YOU KNOW.

MM, I'M A LITTLE BUSY RIGHT NOW.

SHF

YOU'D ALWAYS BE SO FOCUSED ON STUDYING THAT YOU'D FORGET TO EAT.

THIS REMINDS ME OF WHEN YOU WERE A KID, KYU.

...BUT THE WAY YOU USE YOUR LEFT HAND BRINGS BACK MEMORIES. I REMEMBER SHU ALWAYS TRYING TO COPY YOU.

IT'S HORRIBLE TABLE MANNERS ...

MUNCH MUNCH

TAP TAP TAP TAP TAP

MM-HMM.

KLTTR

NGH, COME OOOON !!

AHA HA HA

SHU, YOU'RE BEING TOO PUSHY.

TELL ME THE TRICK TO DOING THAT!

BIG BRO, WHAT'S THE TRICK?!

I CAN'T DO IT!!!

ROLL

ROLL

I CAN'T HELP BUT THINK IT'S CONNECTED TO THAT...

...KYU WENT TO THE SCENE OF THE CRIME AND WOULDN'T EVEN EXPLAIN WHY.

WHEN YUIKA GOT THROWN INTO THAT INCIDENT AT THE HIGH-RISE...

BUT WHAT SPARKED THIS SUDDEN MOTIVA-TION?

YOU HAVE A POINT...

HE'S ACTING THE WAY HE USED TO BEFORE SHU DISAPPEARED.

KYU HAS BEEN PRETTY ENERGETIC THE PAST FEW DAYS, HASN'T HE?

SHHHHF

Within 5 km of Tokyo, Itabasami Ward, Narimasu, 15-chome
Top 10 houses with highest combined market value of home-stored valuables
Currently not at home Single house Homeowner more than 10 km away from house
No pet dogs No security cameras filming house No contract with security company No police booth within 5 minutes on foot

STILL...

SOMETHING IN THE BACK OF MY MIND IS NAGGING ME.

ALL I HAVE TO DO IS REPORT MOURA IN THE ACT AND HAVE MS. SEOMIZU ARREST HIM.

...BUT THE PROCESS IS SIMPLE.

TO ME, ARRESTING MOURA IS IMPORTANT...

MM-HMM, MOURA DOESN'T HAVE ANYTHING TO FEAR RIGHT NOW.

I THINK HIM PULLING OFF A THIRD ROBBERY IN AS MANY NIGHTS IS POSSIBLE.

IS MR. MOURA GOING TO ROB AGAIN TONIGHT?

THAT'S WHY I FEEL LIKE THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE...

SOMETHING THAT I'M OVER-LOOKING...

...I REALIZE WE HAVE A LOT IN COMMON.

...AND ME FEELING UPLIFTED AND BECOMING MORE ACTIVE AFTER GETTING MINE...

WITH MOURA GETTING ALL EXCITED AND GOING WILD AFTER GETTING HIS SUPERPHONE...

IT'S ALMOST LIKE I'M..

...DOIN' NOTHIN' AT ALL~! ♫

DOIN' GOOD S'LONG AS I'M NOT CAUGHT! ♪

DOIN' GOOD S'LONG AS I'M NOT CAUGHT! ♪

I WISH I COULD LIVE AT SCHOOL...

AAH, MAN.

THREE DAYS AGO...

MAY 26 (THU.)

THAT'D BE THE BEST HIGH SCHOOL EVER! ♫

IF I COULD LIVE WITH *EVERYONE* IN CLASS, IT'D BE THE BEST! ♪

GOIN' BACK AND FORTH IS ANNOYING...

HUH?!

WAIT! IN THAT CASE...

VWOOM...

Confirm Owner

Hello, Mr. Norinashi Moura.

HELLO. ♫

WHAT THE HECK IS THIS?

VWEEEE... キュイイイイ...

HEY, WAIT. HM?

PAT

PAT

...

HUH?

I MEAN, *MOEY!* I'LL HELP YOU USE THIS GOOGUGU SMART-PHONE!

MR. MOURA ...

NICE TO MEET-CHA!

I AM AN ASSISTANT A.I.! ♪

Gu!

Gu

Q

RABBL

RABBL

RABBL

NOW... NOW... NOW.

BZZ... BZZ...

AS OF TODAY, I'M GONNA BE THE PACHISLOT KING! ♫

I'VE GOT THE PERFECT SENSOR TO TELL ME THE RIGHT TIMING! WITH THIS BAD BOY, I REALLY CAN BE THE BEST PACHISLOTTER IN ALL OF JAPAN! ♪

AHA AHA AHA AHA AHA

BEE-WOO WOO WOO WOO

YEAAAAAH

...SO YOU DO YOU, EVEN IF YOU GOTTA DOO-DOO! ♬

KING MOURA'S GOT YOU COVERED...

HEY, GUYS! DRINK WHATEVER YOU WANT! ♪

UH, DOO-DOO?

UM, EXCUSE ME...

I'LL NEED TO CHECK YOUR I.D., SIR ...

YEAH, C'MON DOWN, C'MON DOWN! ♪

EVERY-THING'LL BE COMPLI-MENTS OF THE KING! ♬

88デルンゴ88デルンゴ88デルンゴ

BUT LET'S SPEND IT ALL TO-GETHER! ♪

I DUNNO!

WHOAAA!

MOURA, HOW MUCH IS IN THERE?!

I AM SORRY, BUT I CANNOT ALLOW YOU INTO OUR ESTABLISH-MENT IN THE FORESEE-ABLE FUTURE!!

*Sign: 88 Pachi Pachi Derngo

YOU REALLY MADE A LEGEND FOR YOURSELF, MOURA!

SKIPPING SCHOOL, MAKING 510,000 YEN, AND GETTING KICKED OUT, HEH.

WH SPR WH SPR

HA HA HA

AHA HA

MOURA ♪

MOURA ♪

CRAB

WAH HA HA

*Sign: Shu Shu

LOOKIE HERE! MO'MONEY, MO'PROBLEMS, MOURA ♪

UGH, NO GOOD. HE AIN'T LISTENING ...

DON'T YELL THAT YOU'RE IN HIGH SCHOOL! IF ONE OF THE CUSTOMERS REPORTS YOU, YOU'LL GET THE OWNER, MR. TAKASHI, IN TROUBLE TOO!

YOU DUMB-ASS!

I'M NARIMASU HIGH'S LIVING LEGEND! KING MOURA, OH YEAAAH! ♫

WHSPR WHSPR

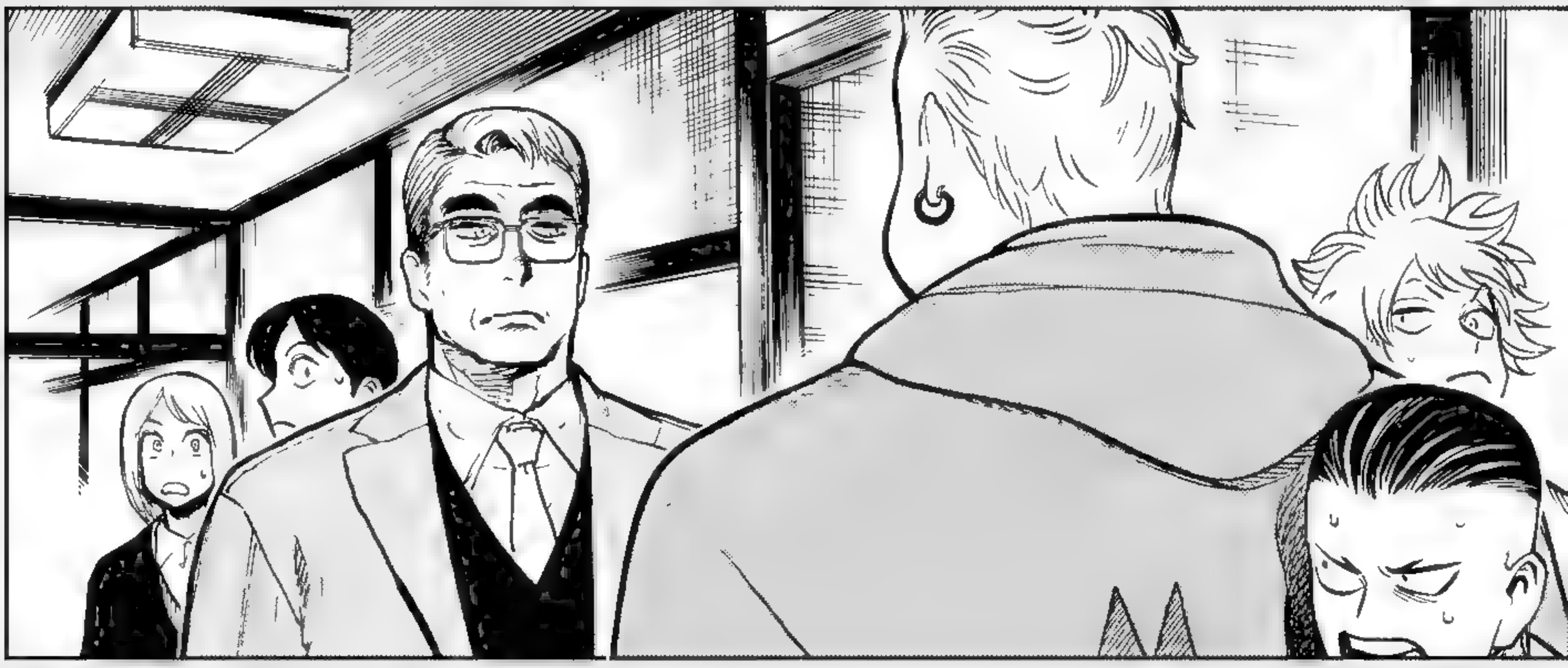
PWAP

*In Japan, individuals under 18 are not allowed in pachinko parlors. Minors are prohibited from drinking.

Huh?!

OH, DAD?

HM? NORE-NASHI ?



I'M SURPRISED HOW SOF— I MEAN, *LENIENT* THE DIRECTOR IS WITH HIS OWN FAMILY...

I WAS SCARED FOR A SECOND ...

YAY!

FINE, STARTING TOMORROW, THEN.

H-HEY, MOURA, THINGS ARE PRETTY LAISSEZ-FAIRE AT HOME, YEAH?

LAZY FAIR?

WHAT'S THAT AGAIN? THAT SOUNDS KINDA FAMILIAR.

A lazy carni-val?

AW-RIGHT!

LET'S KEEP THE DRINKS COMIN'! ♪

SHF

Dang, Moura gave me 30 thousand!

MOURA, THANKS FOR HANGING OUT!

酒酒

NO PROBLEMO! ♪

I'LL TREAT YA EVERY DAY FROM NOW ON! ♪

HUH? HOW COME?

...REALLY IS A DUMMY, ISN'T HE?

MOURA ...

OF COURSE I AM. YOU AND ME BOTH.

SAY WHAT?

IN THAT CASE, THEN ***YOU'RE*** A FLY TOO, TSURUMOTO!

WHAT, YOU NEVER PICKED THAT UP, ENAMI?

...THE MORE HE'LL ATTRACT FLIES THAT ARE JUST AFTER HIS DOUGH.

BUT THE MORE HE THROWS IT AROUND LIKE THIS...

NORMALLY, HE MAKES HIS MONEY SHOPLIFTING, AND THEN THROWS IT AROUND ALL WILLY-NILLY.

ALL I GOTTA DO IS NOT GET CAUGHT.

BA-DUM

BA-DUM

BA-DUM

BA-DUM

IT'S FINE... IT'S ALL GOOD.

THE NEXT DAY

LET'S DO THIS!

OKAY! I'M READY!

HECK, THIS HAS GOT ME IN A FUNK! ♪

THE COST OF THIS IS KINDA BUNK! ♪

I LIKE MY GIRLS WITH A LI'L CHUNK! ♫

HA HO

HUFF HUFF HUFF HUFF

OH MAN, THIS IS JUST TOO SCARY!

MY HEART WON'T STOP A-BEATIN'! ♪

stuff that'd turn to cash, jewels, money
stuff u can put in a backpack
don't need chump change, only 1,000 yen or higher
mark my target so it's obv

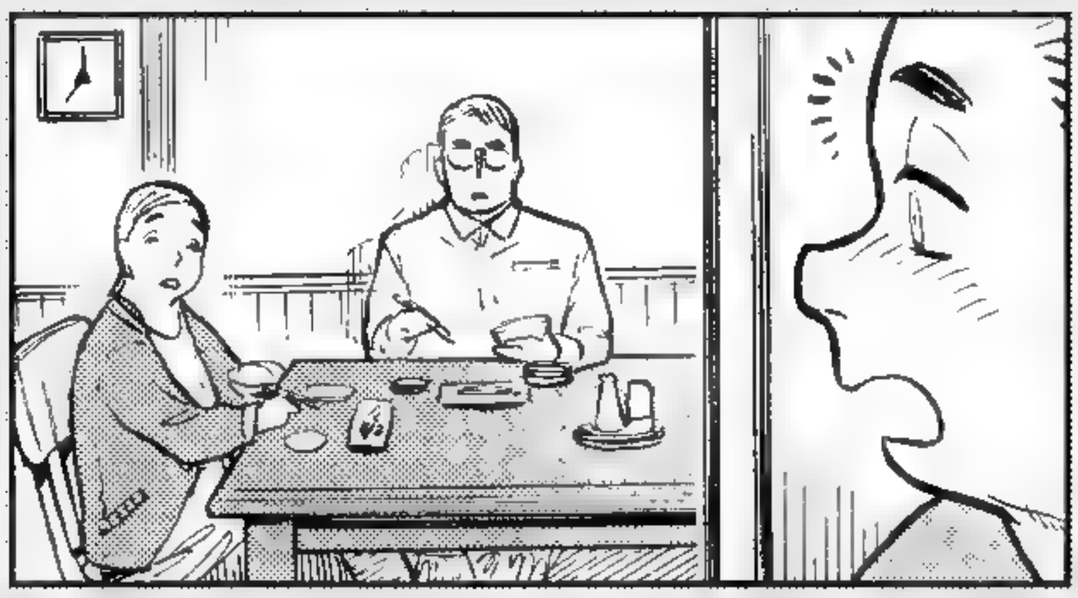
MY BIGGEST TARGET SHOULD BE ON THIS SHELF...

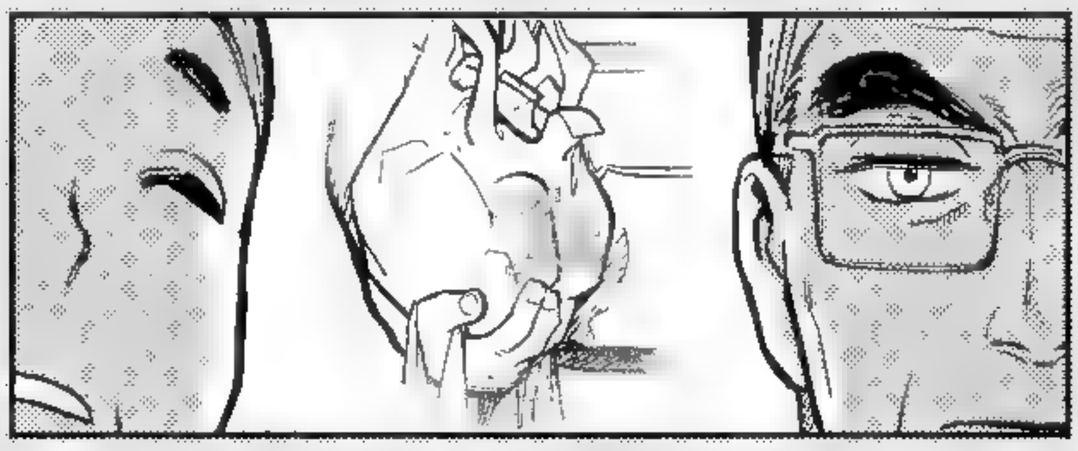
LET'S SEE...

THANK YOU SO MUCH. YO! ♪ I'M GRABBIN' THIS DOUGH. BRO! ♫

IT WAS RIGHT HERE, YO! ♫

OH! FOUND IT!





TWEET TWEET
HIC
NO LOOKIN' AT PRICE TAGS. ♫ AIN'T NOTHIN' I CAN'T BUY! ♪

TRY TO EASE UP ON THE LATE-NIGHT PARTYING, OKAY, SON?
WEL-COME BACK...
NOW FOR THE 7 A.M. NEWS
NEWS

AT THIS HIGH-RISE APART-MENT, A MOB SHOWED UP AND...
NEWS

...GET CAUGHT BY ANYONE EVER! ♪

NEVER HAVE AND NEVER GONNA...

Q. Home-stored valuables combined market value Each house amount of change

¥0

¥0

-¥ 0

THAT'S WHY I KNOW MOURA IS HERE FOR SURE.

THIS DECREASE IS A RESULT OF MOURA STEALING THEIR MONEY AND TAKING ***OWNERSHIP*** OF IT, WHICH PLACES IT UNDER HIS SECURITY.

I FOUND MOURA.

WATCH FROM AFAR?!

WSH

ALL I HAVE TO DO IS WATCH IT GO DOWN FROM AFAR AND MY JOB IS...

THE COPS SHOULD BE HERE IN ABOUT 30 MINUTES PER OUR AGREEMENT.

TEXT SENT.

TIME TO TEXT MOURA'S LOCATION TO MS. SEOMIZU... WELL, TO HER COWORKER, DETECTIVE HANABUSA.

OKAY.

MOURA IS...

I JUST REALIZED SOMETHING.

I MESSED UP.

I *KNEW* I DIDN'T PAY ENOUGH ATTENTION.

WHAT'S THE MATTER, Q?

I SEE. SO THAT'S WHY YOU MADE THAT OAF AN ALLY...

NOW I COM-PLETELY UNDER-STAND YOUR REASON-ING.

BAIT TO LURE OUT PSEUDO-NYM.

MOURA IS BAIT.

THE ENEMY MUST BE LYING IN WAIT FOR ME SOME-WHERE NEARBY!

NO WONDER— I WAS ABLE TO TRACK DOWN MOURA SO EASILY.

I GOT BAITED!

...THEY ALWAYS HAVE A USE.

NO MATTER HOW DUMB AND INSIGNIFICANT THEY ARE...

NO, IT'S BAD.

Goo gu

WHAT IS THE ISSUE IF MR. MOURA IS KILLED? DOES IT REALLY MATTER?

ONCE THE NEWS REACHES ZENICHIRO, HE'LL PROBABLY KILL MOURA BEFORE HE GETS ARRESTED...

...BUT I'VE SENT MOURA'S PERSONAL INFO AND A LIST OF HIS CRIMES OVER TO THE COPS...

NOW THAT I CAUGHT ON, I CAN SIMPLY JUST NOT GO OVER THERE...

AND MS. SEOMIZU WON'T GET INFO ON THE SUPER-PHONES...

IT'LL GIVE THE ENEMY A TON OF GOOGUGU POINTS.

PLUS...

...SO HE CAN PROTECT THE SUPER-PHONE'S SECRET!

...SO MOURA IS AS GOOD AS ARRESTED.

AND SUPERPHONES DON'T HAVE ANY FEATURES TO ERASE INFO.

...I'VE ENDED UP...

...GETTING TO KNOW MOURA.

Nagi Seomizu
150 cm / Blood Type B
Born Mar. 9, 1996 (Pisces) / Age 26
Birthstone: Silver pearl
Gem language: "Reverence"

Belongs to: Tokyo Metro Police Cybercrime Investigation Special Division
Likes: Watching rescue dog videos
Dislikes: Don't-rock-the-boat mindsets, spoiled people
Good at: Understanding new systems, enduring harsh living conditions
Bad at: Associating with the opposite sex (she's too tough on men for anything to last), spoiling herself, being spoiled

Chapter 11: First Owner Contact

I CALL THEM...
...THE ANTI-SUPERPHONE STEALTH SQUAD.
THE GROUP I'VE ASSEMBLED HERE CAN CLOSE IN AND JUMP PSEUDONYM WITHOUT HIM EVER NOTICING.
TADAYOSHI IMURA
ZENICHIRO'S LACKEY

I NEED TO MAKE SURE WE DON'T RAISE SUSPICION AND GET THE POLICE INVOLVED.

...AND, I'VE KEPT THE SQUAD TO JUST FOUR PEOPLE.

SINCE STEALTH IS THE FOCUS HERE, THE GETAWAY VEHICLE IS PARKED AWAY FROM THE SCENE...

AS FOR WEAPONS, THEY'RE USING RETRACTABLE POLICE BATONS WITH ANY IDENTIFICATION SCRATCHED OFF SO THEY'RE UNSEARCHABLE, OF COURSE.

I'VE REMOVED INFO LIKE TAGS FROM EVERYONE'S CLOTHING, AND I'M HOLDING ON TO THEIR PHONES AND WALLETS.

...THIS IS THE OPTIMAL WAY TO CATCH PSEUDONYM!

AS IT STANDS...

URR URRR

MR. ZEN-ICHIRO!

AS SOON AS PSEUDO-NYM SHOWS UP, WE CAN RUSH AFTER HIM!

HE'S CURRENTLY IN A HOUSE 400 METERS AWAY.

THANKS TO THIS SETUP DEVISED BY MR. ZENICHIRO, I KNOW EXACTLY WHAT MOURA IS DOING.

Vegasus/util-tools

online

current location

realtime history

on off

none

realtime history

AFTER ALL, I'M NARI-MASU HIGH'S LIVING LEGEND ...

... KING MOURA! ♪

THAT'S GREAT! BUT...

...AND DISPOSE OF MOURA.

HE WANTS ME TO CANCEL THE PLAN...

...MR. ZENICHIRO...

...SEEMS DISAPPOINTED.

Unfortunately...

Pseudonym avoided making contact with Moura and took precautions.

The police have been tipped off and will be there in about 30 minutes.

However, handing Moura to the police does not benefit us in the slightest.

We have no other choice, so convert Moura's points into your own, Imura.

That is all.

THIS IS FOR MR. ZENICHIRO'S PEACE OF MIND.

I'LL WAIT IT OUT, FOR AS LONG AS I CAN!

IN THAT CASE, THERE'S A CHANCE THAT HE MIGHT COME HERE.

STILL, PSEUDONYM CLEARLY FIGURED OUT THAT MOURA WAS BAIT.

I'M NOT GIVING UP!

PLUS, I KNOW THAT EITHER ZENICHIRO OR HIS SUPERPHONE LACKEY IS LYING IN WAIT.

WHAT WILL YOU DO NOW?

I'M PRETTY SURE MOURA IS BEING USED AS BAIT WITHOUT EVEN REALIZING IT.

But I shouldn't let my guard down.

JUDGING FROM THE CAREFREE WAY HE'S BEEN ROBBING THAT HOUSE AND HOW AWKWARD HE IS, I DOUBT MOURA IS PUTTING ON AN ACT.

HMM...

OR WILL YOU JUMP IN, KNOWING IT'S A TRAP, AND PROTECT MR. MOURA UNTIL THE POLICE ARRIVE?

Goo gu

WILL YOU LEAVE MR. MOURA TO BE DISPOSED OF NOW THAT THE ENEMY IS WISE TO YOUR PLAN?

...LEAVING ME HERE?

Y-YOU'RE...

WHY?!

HUH?

HUUUH?

THERE WE GO.

RSTL

RSTL

?

DON'T WORRY.

BUT WITHOUT ME, HOW DO YOU PLAN ON FIGHTING—

HUH? OH.

MY GREATEST RISK WOULD BE HIM TAKING YOU BY FORCE.

WELL, MOURA IS A 195 CM BEAST OF A MAN.

...GOT MOURA ALL FIGURED OUT.

I'VE ALREADY...

SWISH

YOU.

YOU'RE HERE TO NAB ME, AIN'TCHA?

TUG TUG

!!!

GRAB

OOH, QUICKER THAN I EXPECTED.

WHAT?

UH...!

AHA

HATE TO BRAG, BUT NO ONE'S *EVER* CAUGHT ME! ♪

AHA

IN THE WILD! ♪ THE MIGHTY MOURA! ♫ HAS INSTINCTS GOOD TONIGHT! ♬

HEY, MOURA.

IS THIS SOME ECCENTRIC ZENICHIRO-ESQUE STRATEGY? OR...

HE JUST BLURTED OUT HIS NAME.

I can't tell...

THAT MUST MEAN...

BY "OWNER," D'YA MEAN A SUPERPHONE OWNER?!

Huh? Huh?

HUH ?!

I'M AN... *OWNER.*

AND I WANTED TO MEET YOU.

IN SECONDS, HE ELIMINATED THE POSSIBILITY OF ME BEING A DIFFERENT SUPERPHONE HOLDER JUST BECAUSE HE'S LASER-FOCUSED ON FINDING SOME GUY NAMED PSEUDONYM!

HMM?!

HE'S SO SHORT-SIGHTED! SO ASSERTIVE! THIS MOURA GUY IS TERRIFYING!

...YOU'RE THE PSEUDONYM GUY THAT MR. ZENICHIRO'S LOOKIN' FOR!

HE SAID "PSEUDONYM" JUST NOW!

HE SAID IT!

HE'S SO DARN SIMPLE THAT HE'S ACTUALLY HARD TO READ.

Hnghhhhh...

GRANTED, HE IS ABSOLUTELY RIGHT ON THE MONEY.

Maybe he does have good instincts.

I'LL GO FETCH THE CAR!

KIDNAP HIM BEFORE THE COPS COME!

THE BIG ONE IS ON OUR SIDE, BUT IF HE GETS IN THE WAY, YOU CAN GET RID OF HIM!

ALL HANDS ON DECK!

THE TARGET HAS ARRIVED!

Huh? Huh?

I SHOULD BE PROTECTED BY THAT SEC... UH, *SECRETARITY!*

COME TO THINK OF IT, WHY DOES PSEUDONYM KNOW *MY* NAME?

HOLD UP.

THERE'S A TRICK FOR CONDUCTING SEARCHES. I KNOW *EVERYTHING.*

I TOTALLY REGRET ASSUMING THAT I FIGURED HIM OUT.

THIS GUY REALLY IS A TOUGH NUT TO CRACK.

WHIFF

WHIFF

YAY! I CAUGHT PSEUDONYM! ♪

AW YEAH, GOT SOME GOOD NEWS HERE! ♪ MR. ZENICHIRO'S GONNA GIVE ME MAD PRAISE! ♫

GONNA GET THEM DRIED PERSIMMONS I REALLY WANTED! ♬

HUH?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?!

AND I EVEN KNOW THAT HE'S USING YOU AS BAIT.

I KNOW THAT ZENICHIRO IS THE HIGH-RISE INSTIGATOR.

I KNOW WHAT KIND OF PERSON YOU ARE.

I KNOW *EVERYTHING.*

...

QUICK. WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO TALK. LET'S GET OUT OF HERE FIRST.

MORE IMPORTANTLY, ZENICHIRO'S HIT MEN ARE CLOSING IN ON THIS PLACE AS WE SPEAK.

I'LL EXPLAIN EVERY-THING LATER!

LET'S HURRY AND—

SWISH

HEY, MISS MAHO, TAKE A PIC!

SNAP!

OKEY DOKEY! ALL DONE!

SLAM

...BUT NOTHING HAPPENED.

HE USED HIS SUPERPHONE IN FRONT OF ME WITHOUT ANY HESITATION...

SO I'LL SEND PSEUDONYM'S PHOTO TO MR. ZENICHIRO AND LET HIM FIGURE IT OUT FOR ME.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO.

Kimi speaks in a young yet monotonous male voice.

Hello I am ...

Goo gu

I GUESS SUPERPHONES COME IN DIFFERENT VARIATIONS.

MISS MAHO SPEAKS IN A BRIGHT AND BUBBLY FEMALE VOICE.

IF THAT'S THE CASE, THEN SUPERPHONE HOLDERS CAN SHOW EACH OTHER THEIR PHONES AND TRADE INFORMATION.

Googugu Smartphone Revocation Conditions

Secret Reasons

Ownership of the smartphone will be revoked and the smartphone will be destroyed under any of the following conditions:

1. Revealing the smartphone's secrets
2. Verbally relinquishing the smartphone
3. 403 Fobidden
4. 403 Fobidden
5.
6. Death of owner

I GUESS THAT MEANS THE FIRST REVOCATION CONDITION ABOUT "REVEALING SECRETS" ONLY APPLIES TO EVERYDAY PEOPLE.

MOURA, YOU'RE WASTING YOUR TIME.

YOU SHOULD BE CHECKING OUTSIDE FOR—

SHUT YOUR TRAP!

OKAY, I'VE SENT THE PHOTO TO MR. ZENICHIRO!

TILLO-RING♪

LIKE I SAID BEFORE, JUST SAY THE WORD, AND I'LL MAKE IT HAPPEN.

UM, MISS MAHO, HOW DO I DO THIS AGAIN?

GOOD THING I TRADED LIME INFO WITH MR. ZENICHIRO!

I'LL SEND IT WITH MY REGULAR PHONE!

HMM, THAT'S A PROBLEM.

AAH, RIGHT! IN THAT CASE! UM, ERRM...

YUP, FIGURED.

BUT HE'S NOT SHOWING UP SINCE THE SECURITY IS IN EFFECT. IS THAT OKAY?

!

FOR A GUY LIKE MOURA...

...SOME PRESSURE SHOULD DO THE TRICK.

BESIDES, I'M SCREWED OTHERWISE.

...BUT I'LL PUSH HIS BUTTONS A BIT.

I'M NOT THRILLED TO DO THIS...

...BUT I CAN'T MENTION THAT PART RIGHT NOW.

SORRY. I'M ACTUALLY THE ONE WHO EXPOSED YOUR CRIMES...

EVERYTHING YOU'VE DONE TILL NOW HAS BEEN EXPOSED.

?!

THE COPS ARE GONNA BE HERE ANY MINUTE.

HERE'S THE DEAL.

WHY? I HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THAT!

SAY WHAT?!

SO, IF YOU GET CAUGHT, THE COPS WILL DEFINITELY *SUSPECT YOU OF BEING THE INSTIGATOR'S ACCOMPLICE.*

...AND THEY'RE SEARCHING HIGH AND LOW FOR SUPERPHONE HOLDERS AS WE SPEAK.

PLUS, THE POLICE ARE STARTING TO FIGURE OUT THAT ZENICHIRO IS THE HIGH-RISE INSTIGATOR ...

HERE COMES PRESSURE NO. 2.

I'LL USE WHAT MOURA VALUES THE MOST...

HIS FRIENDS.

HUH? THIS DOESN'T MAKE SENSE!

I CAN TALK DOWN THE COPS AND...

IF YOU DON'T WANT THAT TO HAPPEN, LET'S GET OUT OF HERE.

THIS DOESN'T MAKE ANY SENSE AT ALL!

I'VE GOT NO CHOICE, THEN...

THE ENEMIES ARE CLOSING IN.

MOURA.

...I'M GOING TO GET SOME HELP FROM MISS MAHO.

INSTEAD OF KIMI...

HUH? ENAMI? YOU DUG THAT DEEP INTO MY LIFE?

EVERY-THING WILL MAKE SENSE.

LOOK UP ENAMI'S LIME MESSAGES.

SHIUR

M-MISS MAHO.

ENAMI'S LIME...

SEARCH CRITERIA IS...

OKEY DOKEY!

EVERY-THING WILL MAKE SENSE.

YOU'LL SEE THAT EVERYTHING YOU'VE DONE HAS BEEN OUT IN THE OPEN FROM THE START, AND YOU'RE IN A HUGE MESS RIGHT NOW.

JUST DO IT!

Enami's LIME group chat I'm not in and they're talking abt me

The cops asked me a bunch of questions. Moura is finished. It's a matter of time.

If you guys get questioned by the cops too, listen up.

Make sure you pin the blame on Moura. That's what I did.

I hate to lose our cash cow, but them's the breaks. Moura was never gonna last forever anyway.

Pretty much. He was already way past his expiration date lol.

It's so lame that Moura thinks that he can make friends by throwing his money around.

Plus, he's so stupid that he hasn't noticed we think he's cringe as hell.

True that lol. Now's as good a time as any to cut him loose.

MMM...

A SUPER SMARTPHONE IS A POISONOUS SMARTPHONE.

AND FOR SOMEONE LIKE MOURA, WHO'S BEEN AVOIDING THE TRUTH ALL THIS TIME, THIS POISON IS PARTICULARLY DEADLY.

THE TRUTH IS ALWAYS POISONOUS.

YOU HAVE FULL ACCESS TO INFO THAT YOU NORMALLY WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO TOUCH. AND YOU'D BE BETTER OFF STAYING IN THE DARK THAN LEARNING THE TRUTH. BUT IT'S ALL RIGHT THERE— EVERYTHING IS FREE GAME.

AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAH!

SWSH

What the hell s he even hinking?

Moura is such a shallow money-crutching attention-seeker.

Oof, Enami. That's freakin' harsh. Lmao

HUFF HUFF HUFF HUFF

B-BUT THAT WAS NEVER MY INTENTION.

IT WORKED TOO WELL.

THIS WAS MY LAST RESORT FOR A REASON.

KRASHHH

WAAAH AAAH

えぇぇん…

うぇぇ…

ぐす ぐす HIC HIC

WHAM

WHAM

WHAM

GAAAAAAH

I'M SUPER STURDY!

I'M JUST FINE!

SORRY, MISS MAHO.

…

YOU ALIVE?

...OF HOW TO SHAPE YOUR FUTURE.

AFTER LEARNING THE TRUTH, MAYBE YOU'LL HAVE AN IDEA...

MOURA, IT'S GOOD THAT YOU USED THE SUPERPHONE'S POWER TO FIND...

...A PART OF YOURSELF YOU NEVER KNEW.

I KNEW THAT, WHICH IS WHY I CAME HERE TO TALK TO YOU.

YOU MAY STEAL MONEY, BUT YOU'D NEVER SENSELESSLY HARM ANYONE.

BESIDES, YOU'RE NOT SOME NATURAL-BORN CRIMINAL.

FOUND 'EM!

TMP

AH!

AH!

TMP

AH!

TMP

COME WITH ME AND—

SO, PLEASE.

CHIING

BUT I STILL HAVEN'T TECHNICALLY STOLEN ANYTHING YET, SO...

THE OWNERS OF THE HOUSE? I'M SO SORRY!

NO.

THESE ARE ZENICHIRO'S *HIT MEN.*

THAT'S ONE HECK OF AN EXCUSE TO GIVE THEM.

!

IT'D BE A WASTE ...

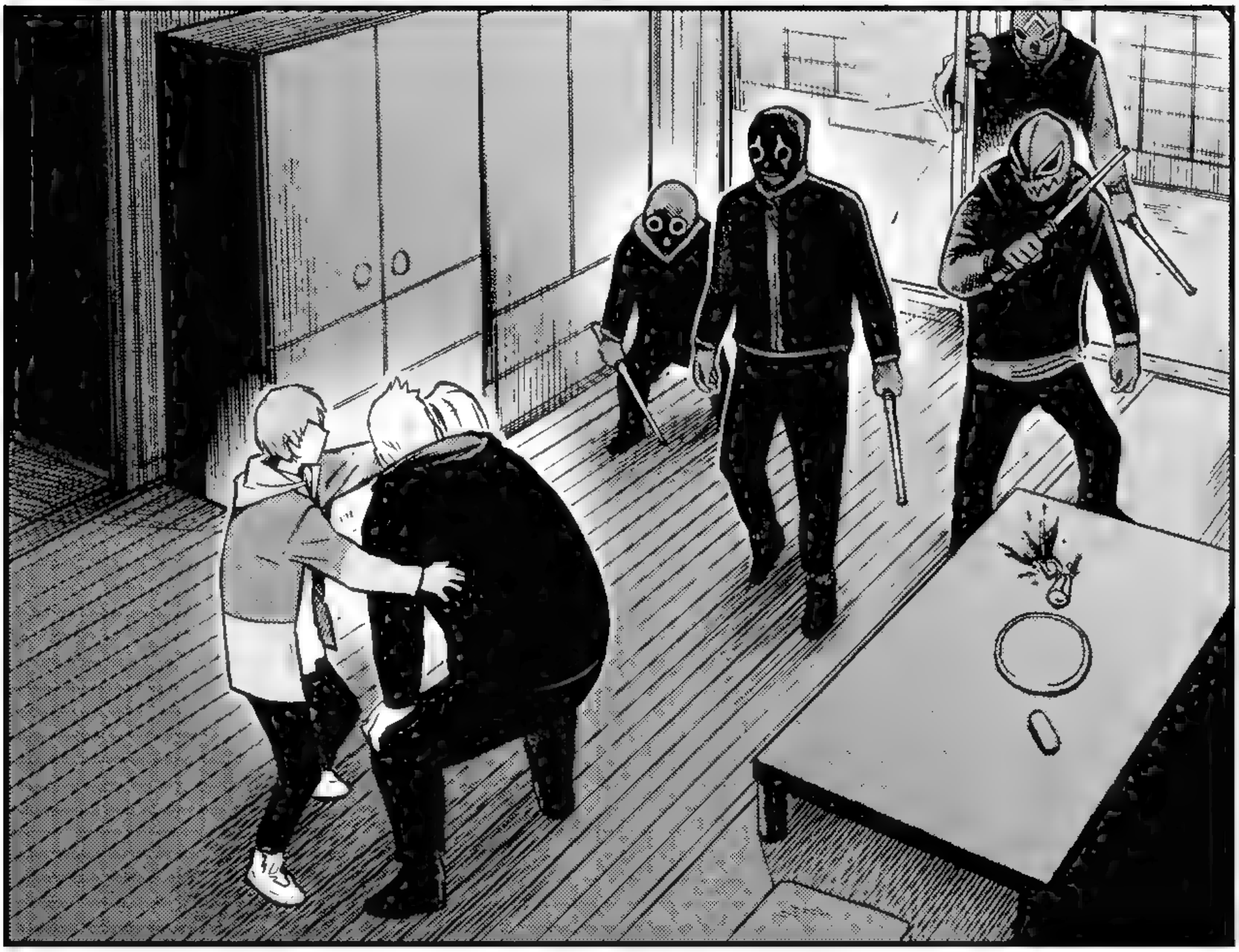
...IF *EITHER* OF US GOT KILLED HERE.

FIRST, LET'S GET OUT OF HERE.

Zenichiro Kangan
186 cm / Blood Type AB
Born Jun. 1, 1997 (Gemini) / Age 23
Birthstone: Alexandrite sapphire
Gem language: "Two-faced"

Belongs to: President/CEO of securities company ZEN
Likes: Greek mythology, big things
Dislikes: Fools, normality
Good at: Everything (especially winning people over)
Bad at: Lying low, being patient

Chapter 12: An Awesomely Awful Game of Tag



SAVE YOUR BREATH, AND LET'S GET THIS OVER WITH. THE USUAL WILL DO.
WHSPR WHSPR
TWO-AND-A...
ONE-AND-A...
THREE-AND-A...
QUIT TALKING. DON'T YOU REMEMBER WHAT HE TOLD US? SOMETHING ABOUT GETTING IDENTIFIED JUST BY OUR VOICES.
WHSPR WHSPR
HEY.
YOU DEAF ?!

THESE GUYS HAVE THEIR MOVES DOWN TO A ROUTINE?

FWOOSH

LOSE!

WHOA!

SHF

GWAAH

I'M A SOY SAUCE-FLAVORED SMART-PHONE NOW! ♪

TEE HEE ♪

I'M SORRY FOR THROW-ING YOU AGAIN, MISS MAHO.

KRAAASH

LET'S GO, MOURA!

SHF

SHF

SHF

SHF

DA-DASH

A SUDDEN STOP FOLLOWED BY A COUNTER

HE'S PULLING A STANDARD PLOY

OH! THAT'S TRUE! ♪

YOU MIGHT FIND SOMETHING OUT.

EKR EKR

THEY ARE. I DON'T HAVE MY SUPERPHONE ON ME RIGHT NOW, SO YOU'LL HAVE TO LOOK THEM UP.

HEY, ARE THEY REALLY...

...MR. ZENICHIRO'S HIT MEN?

DOOF

WHPSH

PSEUDO-NYM...

YOU'RE SMART! ♪

BAAAM

WHPSH

I HAD A READ ON HIM, BUT I STILL GOT HIT...

HE'S GOOD.

MISS MAHO! GIVE ME THEIR IDENTITIES!

SLAP

SORRY.

NO GOOD!

カチャ KACHK

WOW, YOU'RE STRONG, MOURA!

WE RISK PEOPLE SEEING US, BUT IF WE FINISH THINGS QUICK ENOUGH, IT SHOULDN'T BE A PROBLEM.

ONE-ON-ONE'S TOO DANGEROUS. WE'LL LURE THEM OUTSIDE AND OVERPOWER THEM.

WHSPR WHSPR

THESE FOUR DON'T HAVE A SCRAP OF INFORMATION ON THEM THAT WOULD INDICATE THEIR IDENTITIES.

The masks are from Doquin Jote and the clothes are from Uniklo.

I TRIED RUNNING A VIDEO SEARCH AND AN ASSOCIATED INFO SEARCH ON THEIR BELONG-INGS...

...BUT NEITHER WORKED.

THIS JOB AND OUR CLIENT HAVE BEEN NOTHING BUT ENIGMAS, AND IT'S GIVING ME THE CREEPS.

ARE THEY TALKING WITH SOMEONE OVER VIDEO CALL ABOUT OUR IDENTITIES?

?

THOUGH IF I COULD SEE AT LEAST HALF OF THEIR FACES...

...I COULD POSSIBLY WORK SOMETHING OUT.

I SEE. THEY'RE PREPARED AGAINST SUPER-PHONES.

SHWOOF

IF THAT'S SO, THEY'RE PROBABLY NEARBY....

...THE SUPERPHONE HOLDER CAME WITH THEM AND GAVE THEM DIRECT ORDERS.

THEY DON'T HAVE THEIR PHONES, IDENTIFICATION, OR EVEN MONEY ON THEM, BUT THEY MANAGED TO MAKE IT HERE, WHICH MEANS...

THESE HIT MEN...

BAM

HMM... THESE GUYS ARE RUTHLESS. ARE THEY PROS? MUST BE.

THAT MEANS WE SHOULDN'T ASK FOR HELP FROM ANY OF THE FOLKS HERE. WE MIGHT JUST GET THEM WRAPPED UP IN TROUBLE.

WE CAN CUT THEM OFF AT THE PASS! TRAP THEM!

ONE OF YOU, GO DOWN THAT ALLEY!

DASH DASH DASH

MEANING THIS...

...IS A GAME WHERE SUPERPHONES ARE ALLOWED.

THIS DOESN'T APPLY TO MOURA, BUT IF THEY GET A PHOTO OF MY FACE OR MY NAME, I LOSE.

BUT IF WE GET CAUGHT OR KILLED, WE LOSE.

IF WE CAN OUTRUN THE HIT MEN UNTIL THEN, WE WIN.

MS. SEOMIZU AND THE POLICE SHOULD BE HERE IN 20 MINUTES.

HUFF HUFF

AN AWESOMELY AWFUL GAME OF TAG...

...MORE OR LESS.

...I LIKE WATCHING SPORTS.

HUFF HUFF

BUT...

MM, I HAVE ZERO EXPERI-ENCE WITH HAND-TO-HAND COMBAT.

ARE YOU ACTUALLY PRETTY STRONG OR SOME-THING? ♪

HUFF HUFF

HOW'RE YOU STAYING SO COOL, PSEUDO-NYM?

VM

HERE, COULD YOU HOLD MISS MAHO FOR ME?

PHEW

I DON'T LIKE RUNNING, Y'SEE.

SHF

!

YEAH? WELL THEN...

ササッ PEEK

HE FORKED OVER HIS MOST IMPORTANT ITEM LIKE IT WAS NOTHING...

MMM... SURE, LEAVE IT TO ME.

ALL RIGHTY! YOU'RE IN FOR A TREAT! ♪

IN RETURN, BREAK THINGS DOWN SO EVEN A DUMMY LIKE ME CAN UNDERSTAND...

...AND EXPLAIN EVERYTHING LATER, MMKAY? ♪

I'LL PROTECT YOU, PSEUDONYM.

WRAP WRAP

SO I'M GONNA *FIGHT.* ♪

GOTTA BE CAREFUL. HE'LL USE THAT JACKET WRAPPING TO DRAW OUR ATTENTION SO HE CAN LAND A KICK...

THAT'S AN ORTHODOX KARATE STANCE.

TMP

YOU GET TO SEE WHAT NO ONE ELSE HAS! ♫ MOURA IN SERIOUS MODE! ♬

WHAM

SHF

HMF!

HOLD ON TO IT REAL TIGHT! ♪

NABBED US A POLICE BATON! ♪

SHF

WSH

GRIP

WHAM

WOW!

"...EVERYONE SAYS THAT HE'S PROBABLY NOT AS GOOD AS HE LOOKS."

"SINCE HE'S NEVER GOTTEN INTO A SCRAP BEFORE..."

"AND, WELL..."

ABSO-LUTELY NOT THE CASE.

...MEAN THAT "NO ONE EVER PICKS A FIGHT IF WE BRING MOURA ALONG."

ROGER

Hum! Hum!

KIM, TURN ON THE CHA USE COMPRES TO MAI MY VO BURLY, MAKE ANONYM CALL

THAT REMINDS ME, ENAMI SAID THAT MOURA'S LARGE FRAME AND BLACK BELT IN KARATE...

I HAVE INFO THAT SAYS YOU USED A LARGE AMOUNT OF MONEY THAT YOUR FRIEND OBTAINED THROUGH HIGHLY ILLEGAL MEANS

MM, HELLO? IS THIS MR ENAMI? I'M SUZUK WITH JUVENILE AFFAIRS AT THE NAR MASU POLICE DEPART-MENT

BA-BMP

BA-BMP

BA-BMP

HM...

Enami's LIME group chat I'm in and they're talking SO ENAMI AND THE OTHERS TALKED CRAP ABOUT MOURA WHILE CROWDING he AROUND HIS MONEY AND GAINING HIS PROTECTION, HUH?

The cops ask bunch of que is finished time

If you guys cops too, Make sur Moura Th

I hate having to los cow but them's the was never gonna last forever anyway Moura

Pretty much He was lready way past his expiration date lol

THAT'S HOW SOMEONE FIGHTS WHEN THEY KNOW THEY'RE REALLY STRONG.

DESPITE THE SITUATION, MOURA IS USING HIS RIGHT HAND AND HOLDING BACK ON HIS KICKS SO HE DOESN'T HURT HIS OPPONENTS.

!

...HE'S AS SOLID AS A MOUNTAIN.

WHEN MOURA IS FIGHTING ...

HE DOESN'T LOOK LIKE HE'D EVER LOSE!

OOH! ♪

THANKS, PSEUDO-NYM! ♪

CHIIING

I GOTTA DO SOMETHING.

OUR ENEMIES KEEP GETTING BACK UP.

BUT IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE HE'LL WIN EITHER.

THWAK

THANKS.

I SEE YOU'RE WAY MORE PERCEPTIVE THAN MOEY!

BASICALLY, THE ONLY SUPER-PHONE I CAN USE IS *MY OWN*, RIGHT?

YOU CAN TALK WITH ANOTHER PERSON'S SUPERPHONE, BUT YOU CAN'T SEARCH WITH IT.

WHSPR WHSPR

BY THE WAY, CAN I USE YOU, MISS MAHO?

NOPE. THAT'S BE-CAUSE ...

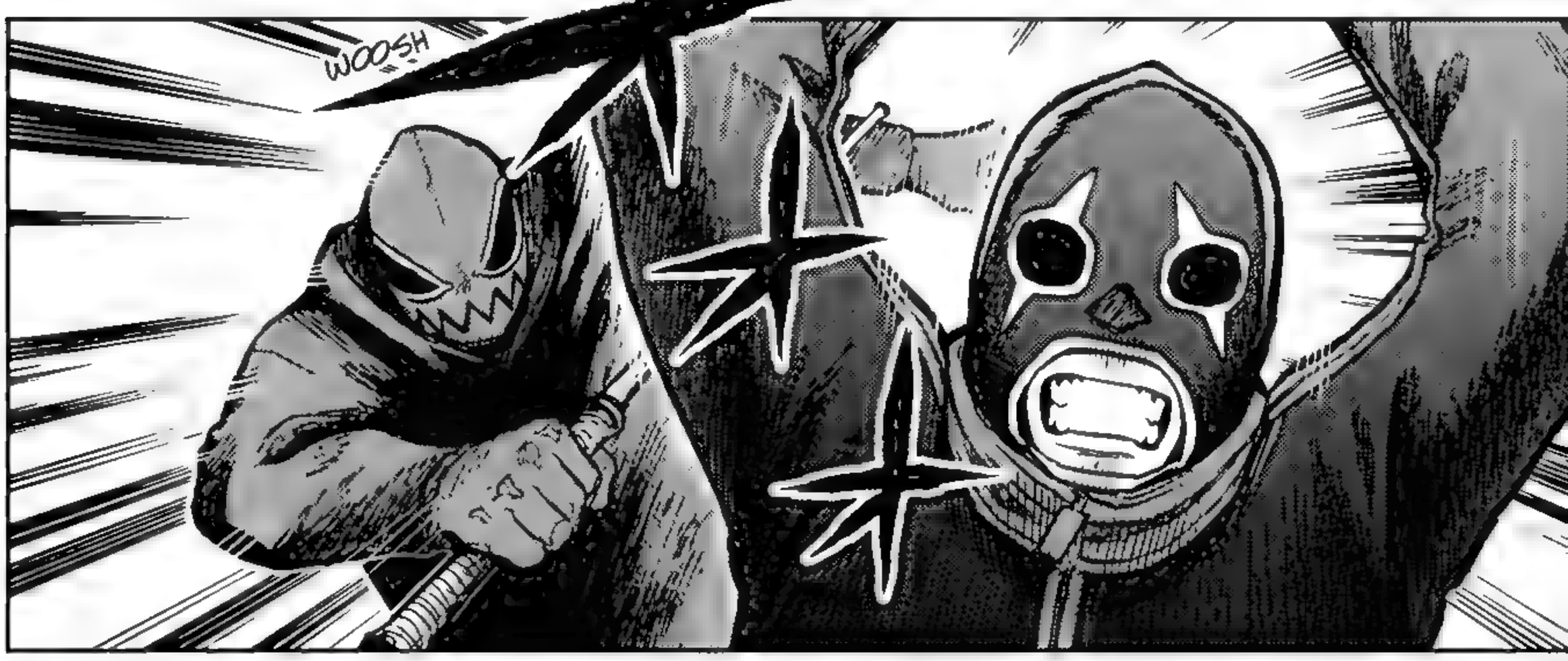
WELL, LOOK IT UP ON YOUR SUPER-PHONE AND FIND OUT. ☆

BZZ BZZ

YOWCH!
WHAK!
YOU OKAY, PSEUDO-NYM?!

DOOMF
BM-SHH

YEAH, I'M NO GOOD AT PHYSICAL COMBAT.
I'M SCREWED.
MMM, I'M FINE.


WOOSH

101

WE'LL ALL ATTACK AT ONCE!

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

ALL RIGHT! WE GOT THEM SURROUNDED.

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

...

HUFF

HUFF

...WHICH ALSO MEANS I CAN'T BLACKMAIL THEM WITH MY SUPER-PHONE THE SAME WAY I DID AT THE HIGH-RISE

IN THAT CASE...

O-OKAY...

REPEAT MY WORDS! READY?

RECITE!

LET'S GO!

WHAT'S THAT AGAIN?

"FREE SITE"?

LIKE I SAID, [illegible] IT TIME AND-

JUST RECITE WHAT I'M ABOUT TO SAY.

MOURA, USE MISS MAHO!

I DON'T WANT TO IMPROVISE AND LEAVE ANY TRACES OF THE SUPERPHONE BEHIND...

BUT I DON'T HAVE MUCH OF A CHOICE NOW!

SEND A MESSAGE IN SCROLLING EMERGENCY-BROADCAST FORMAT ALL AT ONCE!

THE MESSAGE SHOULD SAY...

"EMERGENCY REPORT: ACCOMPLICES OF THE HIGH-RISE INSTIGATOR ARE NOW IN FRONT OF THE NARIMASU PUBLIC HOUSING COMPLEX NO. 8. PLEASE BE ON THE LOOKOUT!"

...AND IF POSSIBLE, EVERY TV AND RADIO AS WELL.

PSEUDONYM! YOU GOTTA SPEAK LOUDER!

ON BOTH SIDES OF THIS ROAD, TARGET EVERY APARTMENT'S MOBILE PHONES, COMPUTERS...

WHSPRNSHPR

UM, IN FRONT OF... PRIVATE HOUSING COMPLEX NO. 8...

SEND!

WHAT'S THIS "ARBITRARY" THING GONNA DO? I'M SCARED!

SEE, LOOK FOR YOURSELF!

HUH ?

I'M SORRY, PSEUDO-NYM! IT DIDN'T WORK!

Error Sending

You have exceeded the maximum number of messages you can send at one time.

Do you want to send to 648 arbitrary recipients?

YES

NO

OKAY YYY!

HIT "YES"!

TAP

EMERGENCY REPORT
HIGH-RISE INST...

THE NARI-MASU PUBLIC HOUSING ...

KACHA

ガチャ

EMER-GENCY...

BUZZ BUZZ BUZZ

BEEP BEEP BEEP

TA-RING

PI-IP

EMER-GENCY...

EMER-GENCY TUMBLE

PUP PUP PUP PUP PUP

MNZMZN

PLING LING

PUP PUP

TA-RING

BANG

THERE REALLY *ARE* PEOPLE OUT THERE!

SEE ANYONE OUT THERE?

OVER THERE!

THEY'RE HOLDING BATS?

THUGS?!

HUH? THE NEWS POPPED UP ON MY PHONE.

WHAT WAS THAT JUST NOW?

WHY WAS THERE A NEWS FLASH ABOUT OUR COMPLEX ON TV?

SHOULD WE CALL THE POLICE?!

HEY, ARE YOU TWO OKAY?

:DASH DASH DASH

FALL BACK!

YES! PLEASE AND THANK YO—

GOOD THING YOU'RE SO SMART, PSEUDO-NYM!

AWE-SOME!

Hate to ding-dong-ditch and all, but y'know.

ANY-WAY, LET'S GET OUTTA HERE.

AW, SHUCKS. COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOU, MOURA.

SHEEEEEEEEEZ

...HAS SOME KIND OF *SPECIAL ABILITY.*

ONCE HE DID, EVERYONE IN THE APARTMENT BUILDING REALLY FUNNELED OUT...

HE SAID TO SEND *A MESSAGE ALL AT ONCE* TO SOME TINY, UH... SMART-PHONE...

WHAT IN THE HELL DID THOSE TWO DO BACK THERE?

HUFF

HUFF

HUFF

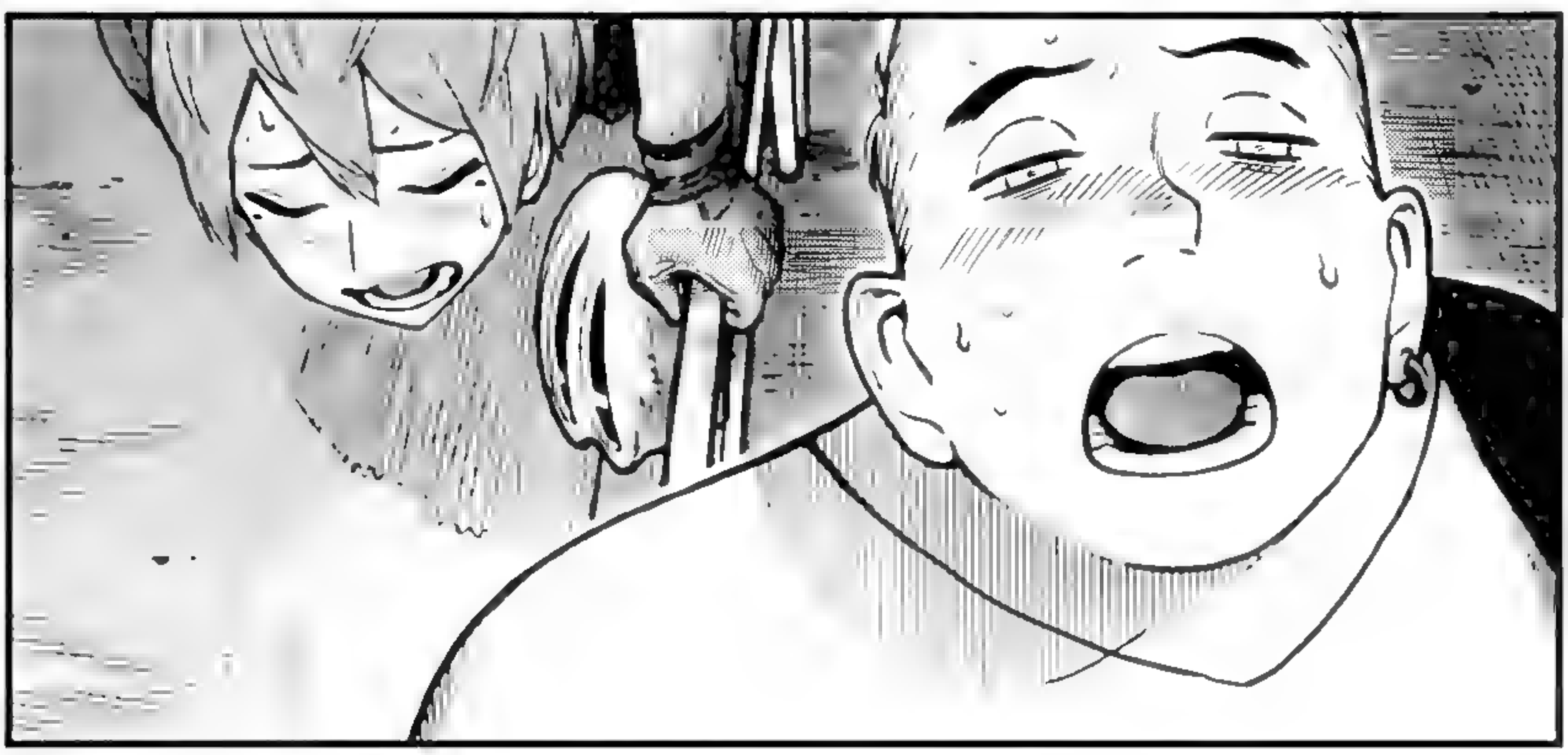
HUFF

THEN I CAN ONLY ASSUME THAT SMART-PHONE...

Tadayoshi Imura
177 cm / Blood Type A
Born Jan. 26, 2002 (Aquarius) Age 20
Birthstone: Pyrope garnet
Gem language: "Burning love"

Belongs to: Tokyo University third-year
Likes: Water, flowers, people with strong wills
Dislikes: People with no will, himself
Good at: Studying, effort, going down a set path
Bad at: Life choices and decisions

Chapter 13: Moura and Zenichiro



...SO MY LOCATION IS HIDDEN EVEN TO SUPERPHONE HOLDERS.

I WAS TOLD THAT THE SECUR-WHATCHA-MACALLIT IS PROTECTING ME...

HUFF HUFF

WHY DID THOSE GUYS KNOW WHERE I WAS?

MOURA, HAVE MISS MAHO SEARCH FOR SOMETHING.

REPEAT AFTER ME.

WAIT, MAYBE...

...SO I'D IMAGINE IT WAS NO PROBLEM FOR ZENCHIRO AND HIS PEOPLE TOO.

I MANAGED TO FIGURE THAT OUT EASY ENOUGH...

HUH?

"SPYWARE IN MOURA'S SMARTPHONE, ITS FUNCTION, AND THE LAST RECIPIENT OF WIRETAP DATA..."

SEARCH.

WHAT?

Huh?

THIS PERSON MUST BE A SUPER-PHONE HOLDER SINCE THAT "404" COMES UP.

SOME SPYWARE, THAT IS.

Spyware in Moura's smartphone, its function, and the last recipient of wiretap data

n Results

Spyware Name

Vegasus/util-tools

Function

Remote access to all functions of smartphone, including microphone, GPS, camera.

Last recipient of Wiretap Data

404 not found

I KNEW THERE WAS SOME LOADED IN HERE.

MOURA, DID YOU LET ANY SUPERPHONE USERS TOUCH THIS REGULAR PHONE?

HE TOUCHED MY PHONE!

MR. ZENICHIRO...

HE TOUCHED IT.

NAH, NO WAY WOULD I A—

AAAAAAAH!!

200...
210...
220...
230...
05/28/2022 (SAT.)
3:13 A.M. DINER OUTSIDE
OF NARIMASU STATION
RIGHT AFTER MOURA ROBBED A HOUSE FOR THE FIRST TIME...
(MEANWHILE, THE HIGH-RISE INCIDENT IN KICHIJOUJI WAS STARTING TO CALM DOWN.)
190...
I SCORED 230,000 YEN! THAT DRAWER'S STASH OF CASH WAS MINE ALL ALONG! ♪
AND THERE'S A LOT MORE BRANCHES T'COME! ♫
THE FIRST NATIONAL DRAWER BANK OF MOURA, NARIMASU BRANCH! ♪

WHOA, COOL...

I'M RIGHT HERE! CAN YOU SEE ME?

Hey, hey!

Hello ?!

HUH?

SUUF

YOU'RE SITTIN' HERE?

DO I KNOW YOU, GUY?

NORENASHI...

...MOURA.

HUH?
WHY DO YOU
KNOW WHO
I AM?

I KNOW
WHAT YOU
WANT MOST
IN THIS
WORLD.

YOU'D
LIKE A LOT OF
FRIENDS...

...RIGHT?

I HAVE A LOT OF FRIENDS.

EVEN PEOPLE THAT YOU'D RECOGNIZE ON TV...

...ARE ALL FRIENDS WITH ME.

IF YOU JOIN ME...

...THEN I'LL SHARE THEM WITH YOU.

MY *BEST* FRIENDS WILL BE YOURS TOO.

PRESI-
DENT
...

...IN THE *BEST* PLACE IN THE WORLD.

YOU WILL LIVE WITH ME FROM NOW ON...

ZEN Co., Ltd.
President and CEO
ZENICHIRO KANGAN

TOO EASY!

THAT'S SO COOL...

OH, RIGHT.

YOU'VE HELPED ME CONFIRM A LOT...

... WHICH I APPRE-CIATE.

WOW, YOUR SUPERPHONE IS QUITE DIFFERENT FROM MINE, MOURA.

I DUNNO WHAT YOU MEAN, BUT GO FOR IT! ♪

TUNK TJ

I'LL PUT A MESSAGING APP ON YOUR NORMAL PHONE JUST IN CASE.

IT'S FAR MORE CONFIDENTIAL AND ***USABLE*** THAN LIME.

GRIN

OR WOULD IT STILL BE TOO FLIMSY?

IF I HAVE MS. SEOMIZU RUN A CHECK ON THIS, WOULD IT SERVE AS EVIDENCE FOR THE CRIMES ZENICHIRO'S COMMITTED?

I'll cut the power in the mean-time...

EVER SINCE THEN, MR. ZENICHIRO HAS BEEN TRACKING ME...

IT WAS BACK THEN!

I'M PATHETIC.

I INSTANTLY FELL FOR HIM AND GOT MY HEAD STUCK IN THE CLOUDS.

MR. ZEN-ICHIRO...

HE WAS ONLY USING ME FOR HIS OWN CONVENIENCE, WASN'T HE?

SOB SOB
SOB SOB
?
?
?

IF HE KEEPS HIS SUPERPHONE, HE'LL BE ON THE PATH TO SELF-DESTRUCTION.

...HE'S A PERFECTLY NORMAL PERSON.

THE ONLY WAY TO SAVE YOURSELF...

NOT ONLY DOES HE KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT YOU, BUT HE'S ALSO AFTER YOUR LIFE.

ZENICHIRO IS DANGEROUS— HE INCITED THE HIGH-RISE INCIDENT WITHOUT SO MUCH AS BATTING AN EYE.

NO MORE, NO LESS.

...IS TO ABANDON YOUR SUPERPHONE AND LET THE POLICE PROTECT YOU.

OKAY.

NOD

I GET IT.

REALLY ?

...YOU'LL END UP BEING THE HERO THAT SAVED JAPAN... MAYBE.

IF YOU DO, THEN SOMEDAY...

THEN, TELL THE POLICE ABOUT ZENICHIRO, THE SUPER-PHONE— EVERY-THING.

ウー WEE-WOO

ウー WEE-WOO

THE POLICE ARE COMING TO THOSE APARTMENTS FROM EARLIER, SO GO LOOK FOR A PERSON NAMED DETECTIVE SEOMIZU. YOU CAN TRUST HER.

MOURA.

OKAY, GOT IT.

HEY, MOURA?

ONE LAST THING.

AHA

AHA

AHA

HEH HEH

LOOK INTO TSURUMOTO'S LIME.

SEE YA.

I'M CAVING! I'M CAVING!! OKAY, I CAVED!!!

AAAAH...

BUT THE WAY PSEUDONYM SAID THAT MAKES ME WANNA CAVE!

ぐぬぬ…!

TSURU'S LIME?

I'M KINDA AFRAID TO GO POKIN' THROUGH ANYONE ELSE'S LIME AT THIS POINT.

M-MISS MAHO?

YEEES?

There's a reason Moura ended up like this.

It's cuz his parents neglect him to a ridiculous degree.

Neglect how?

Back at his house, Moura's got stacks of new games and stuff that he shoplifted, but neither of his parents have said a word about any of it.

Huh? That's super irresponsible, yeah?

Ever since his smart older sis died 7 years ago, the Mouras all changed for the worse.

Ah, yeah... Kyoko was h
big sis, right?

She was so kind and cheerful. Everyone loved her.

I've told Moura to stop shoplifting over and over again, but he's got it in his head that, "Oh, I can never get caught, no matter what I do. All I gotta do is never get caught." He would never listen cuz of that...

He doesn't listen when I warn him 'bout throwing round his money either.

But I'll try telling him again.

He's gonna ruin his life if we don't step in.

Moura's always been a simple and lonely dude who loves his friends. He's just a normal, great guy.

...I THINK MOURA WANTED SOMEONE TO NOTICE AND REPRIMAND HIM FOR HIS ACTIONS.

MAYBE HE NEVER REALIZED IT, BUT DEEP IN HIS HEART...

I'M JUST A BIG DUMB JERK...

...BUT I NEVER LISTENED.

I'M SORRY. YOU DID WARN ME, TSURU...

WEE-WOO WEE-WOO

THANKS, MISS MAHO! ♪

GOOD THING YOU HAVE SUCH A KIND FRIEND, MOEY! ☆

...THEN HE MIGHT BECOME STRONG, CHEERFUL, AND SURPRISINGLY POPULAR.

IF MOURA LEADS AN HONEST AND REASONABLE LIFE...

Not like I know for sure, but still.

RABBL
RABBL
RABBL
RABBL

NO.

NOT AT ALL.

Yup, you're sulking all right.

NO... NOTHING.

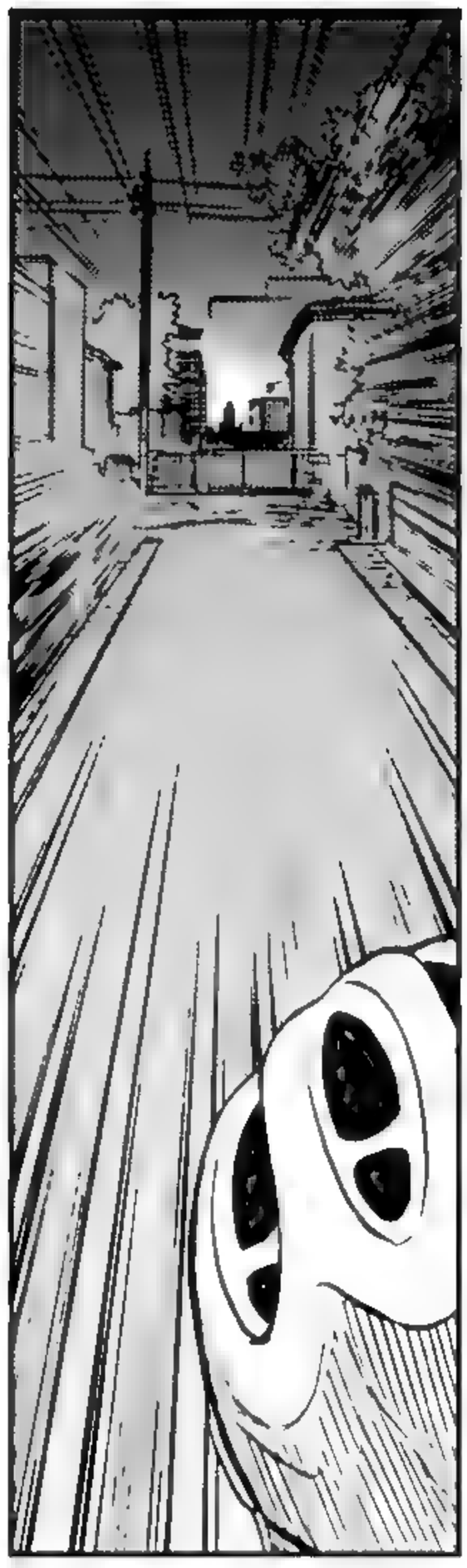
HMM? ARE YOU SULKING?

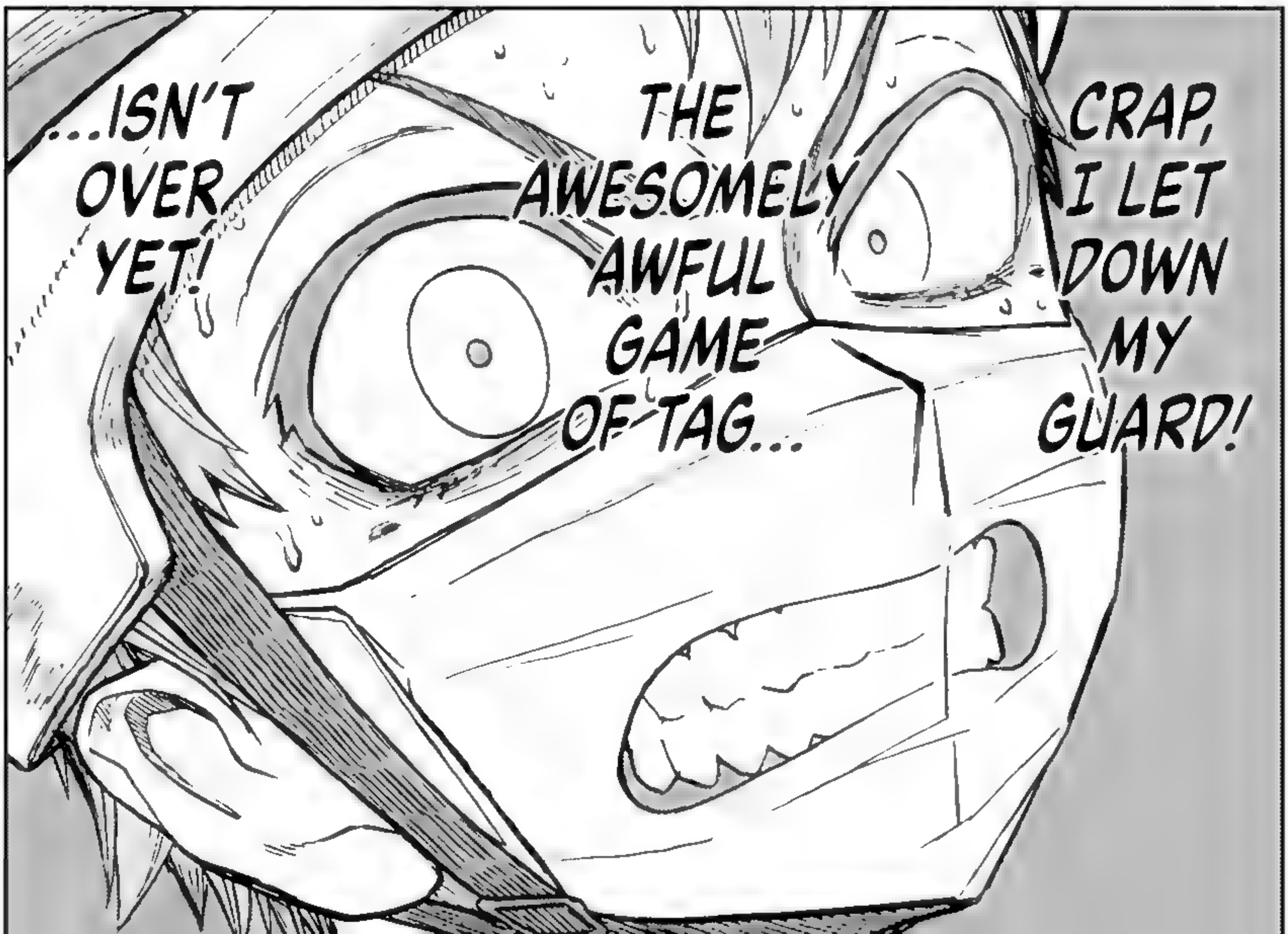
SORRY FOR THE WAIT, KIMI. ANYTHING HAPPEN WHILE YOU WERE WAITING?

RUSTL RUSTL

...

!




...ISN'T OVER YET!
THE AWESOMELY AWFUL GAME OF TAG...
CRAP, I LET DOWN MY GUARD!

SNAP
SNAP
SNAP

MR. ZENICHIRO! I'VE SNATCHED PSEUDONYM BY THE TAIL!

I LIVE IN KOUENJI, WHICH SITS RIGHT ON THE DIVIDING LINE OF NARIMASU!

WELL, THAT SUCKS.

MAYBE THAT—"PSEUDONYM LIVES IN A TOWN THAT'S WITHIN BIKING DISTANCE OF NARIMASU."

HMM!

ONLY YOUR DEATH HAS ANY MEANINGFUL VALUE.

WHICH MEANS...

MOURA...

YOUR EXISTENCE HAS ZERO VALUE NOW.

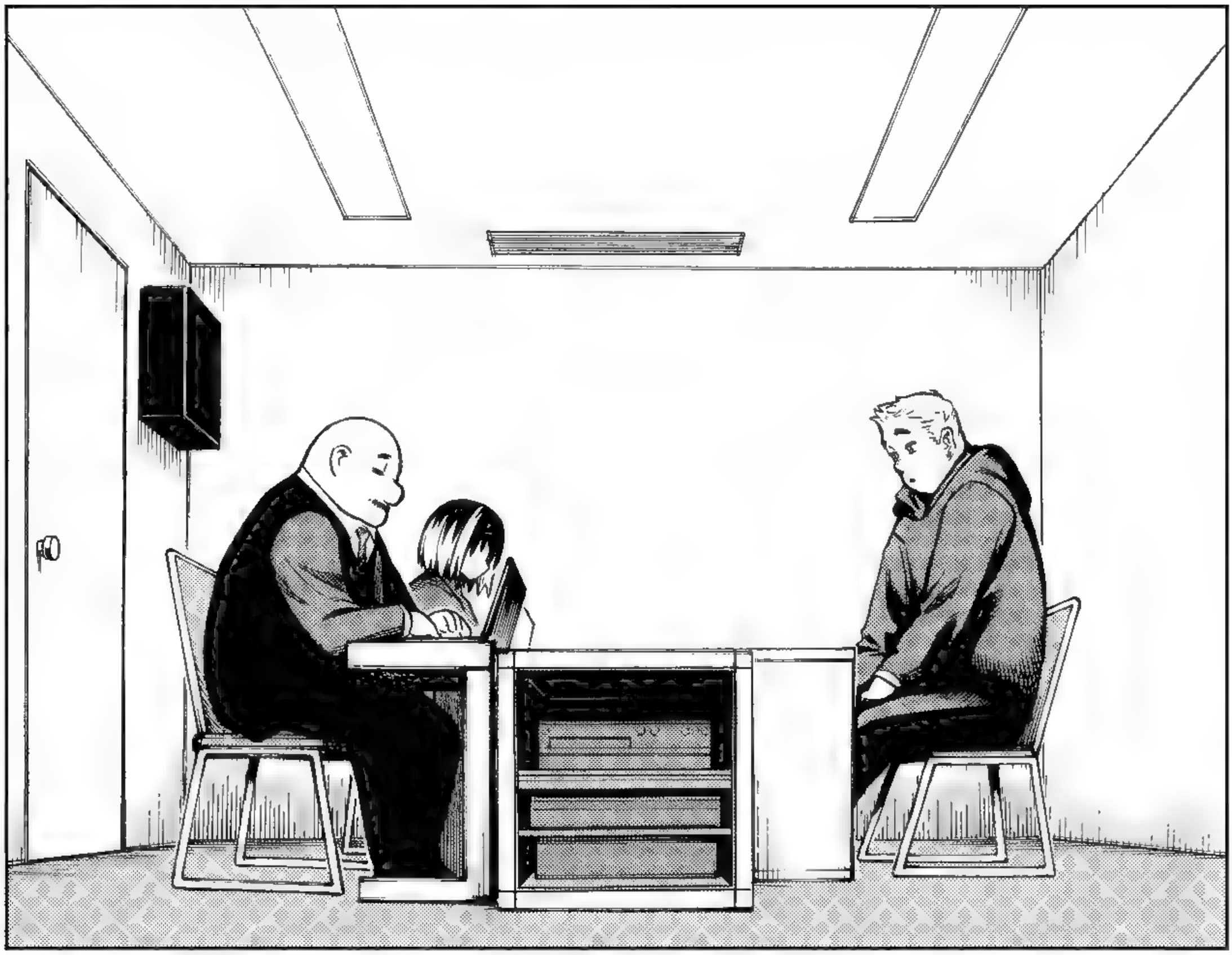
IT'S TIME TO SAY *GOODBYE.*

DON'T YOU THINK?

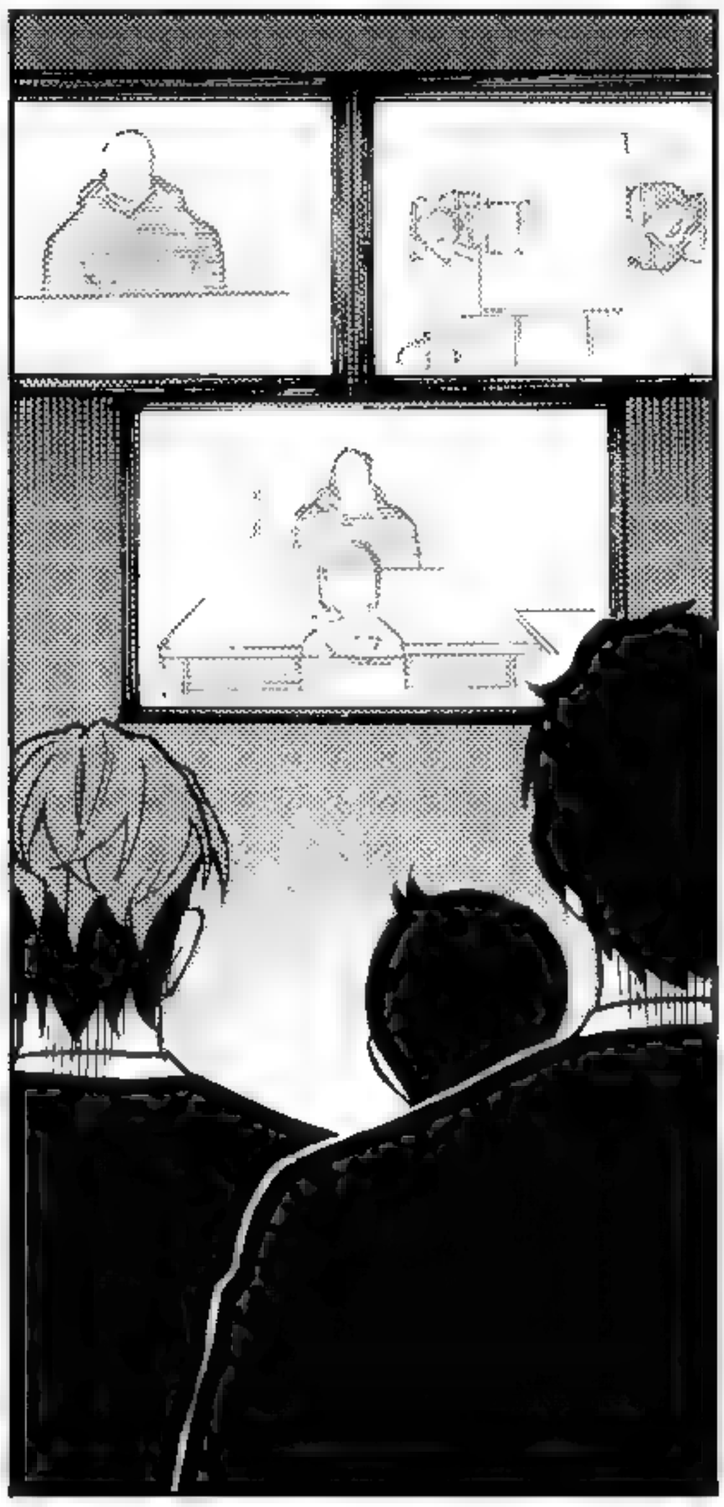
Norenashi Maura
195 cm / 105 kg / Blood Type O
Born Jul. 3, 2004 (Cancer) / Age 17
Birthstone: Rock crystal
Gem language: "Cheerful"

Belongs to: Narimasu High School third-year
Likes: Friends, family, fun stuff
Dislikes: Being alone, non-fun stuff
Good at: Using his body, fun stuff
Bad at: Using his head, non-fun stuff

Chapter 14: The First Device



ACCORDING TO NAGI, HE'S ONE OF THE "OWNERS."
AND "OWNER" IS A FIGURE OF SPEECH FOR WHAT, EXACTLY?
...WAS THE KEY PERSON BEHIND THE HIGH-RISE INCIDENT THAT ROCKED JAPAN?
SO, MOURA, THAT 18-YEAR-OLD HIGH SCHOOLER ...



新
集英
JUMP
BLUE
RABBIT WORLD

Googugu SNS
Notification
Time Encountered
05/29/2022 9:07 P.M.
You encountered "??"
Add as a friend?

IS THIS PSEUDONYM? FEELS A LITTLE POINTLESS NOW.

TAP
ﾀｯﾌﾟ

OH!

I GOT IT! ♪

MUR-MUR MUR-MUR

TALK TO ME.

ALL RIGHT, LET'S START.

WE CAN MAKE IT SQUARE! ♪ HOW 'BOUT SOME SHIMANE-GROWN PEARS? ♬

SORRY FOR THE WAIT! ♪ HOPE YOU COULD BEAR! GOT NO APOLOGY GIFT, BUT NOT CUZ I DON'T CARE! ♫

OKAY! ALL DONE!

WELL, TO SUM IT UP...

AH, RIGHT...

!

THIS IS ONE *SUPER* SMARTPHONE.

HI THERE.

I'M PRETTY DUMB, SO I'LL LET MISS MAHO EXPLAIN...

!

WAS THAT FEMALE VOICE JUST NOW THE BUILT-IN A.I. SPEAKING?

...SMART-PHONE...?

SUPER...

FLIP

CAN WE ASK THE A.I. WHAT'S HAPPENING?

OH! GOOD IDEA. ♪

IS THIS PHENOM-ENON A FIRST?

WHAT'S GOING ON?! IT'S WARM!

KLATTR

WHA?!

SHWEEEEEEEEEN

Gu!

Gu!
Gu
Q
...ARE ABOUT TO...
...OCCUR.
THE REVO-CATION CONDI-TIONS...
MISS MAHO, WHAT'S HAPPENING HERE?
OH, I SEE...
I GUESS IT'S ALREADY TIME TO SAY GOODBYE TO YOU, MISS MAHO.
MOURA, TIME OUT!
WAIT A SECOND!
REVO-CATION...?
!
I'M GOING TO MISS YOU TOO! ★
MOURA! SHUT IT!
I DON'T WANT TO SEE YOU GO. I'LL MISS YOU.
Pretty WeirD fOr aN A.I., don'tcha ThInK.

MOURA!

DON'T GO ANY FURTHER!

HUH? BUT...

THEY'RE HAVING A PERFECT CONVERSATION! HE MUST BE TALKING TO ONE OF HIS FRIENDS ON THE OUTSIDE, RIGHT?

LIGHTS? A HOLOGRAM? WHAT IS THIS?!

...HOW ARE YOU SUPPOSED TO FIND OUT...

...THAT MISS MAHO...

SHEEN

...IS A SUPER SMARTPHONE THAT CAN SEARCH THE WHOLE WORLD...

...IF I DON'T LET THIS HAPPEN?

'KAY?

FOR
3V3 r y
$HI
■
**
■

YOU
HAVE
MO3
Y

BYE...

...BAI.

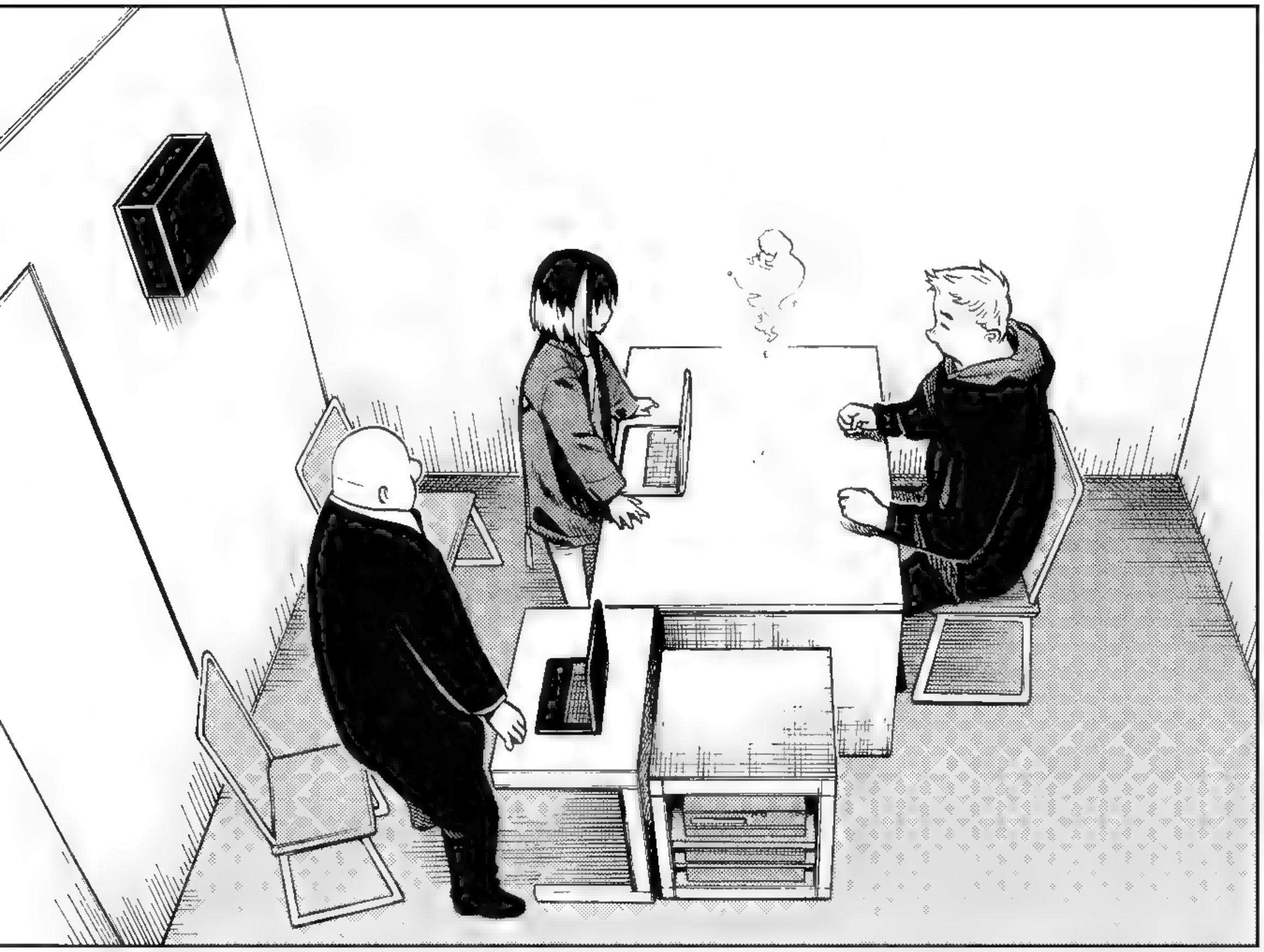
1/10

PWSHOOOOO

BLUE WORLD

KLAK KLAK カッ カッ

KUNK コッ



I'M SORRY, MISS MAHO.
IT'S ALL CUZ I'M SO DUMB...

NO.

WHAT YOU SAY WILL HAVE JAPAN'S—

MOURA, THIS IS A SERIOUS MATTER.

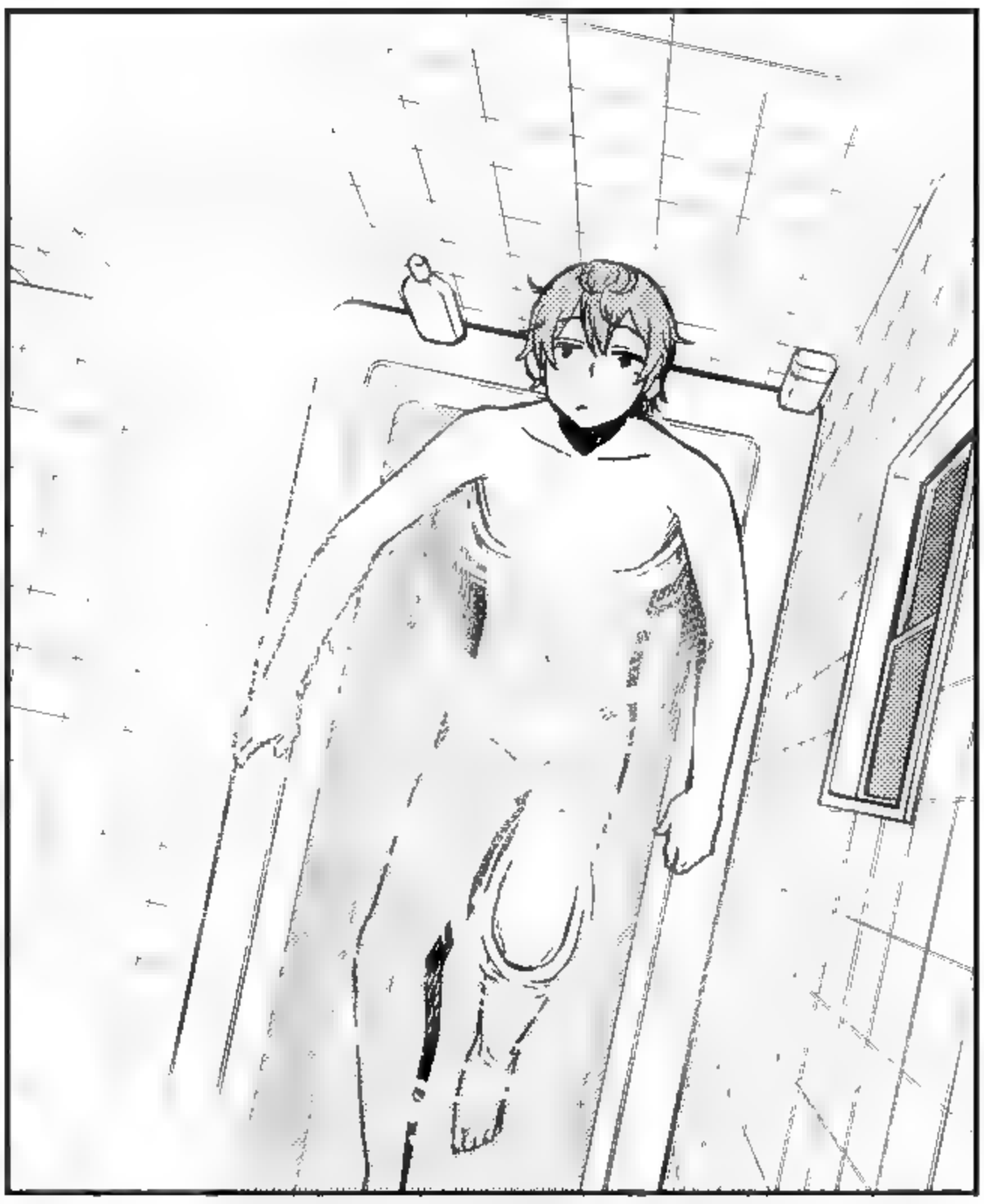
WILL HAVE THE *WORLD'S* FUTURE RIDING ON IT.

NOD コクッ

SO, THEN.

YOU'LL TELL ME EVERY-THING, RIGHT?

...DIED IN AN ACCIDENT SEVEN YEARS AGO IN SUMMER.
AND MOURA'S OLDER SISTER SIMIL'ARLY...
MY LITTLE BROTHER SHU WENT MISSING SEVEN YEARS AGO IN SPRING.
IT'S LIKE SUPER-PHONE OWNERS ...



...ARE ALWAYS BIZARRELY CLOSE TO THE TOUCH OF DEATH. BUT IS THAT A MERE COINCIDENCE?

...THE DEATH OF SOMEONE CLOSE TO YOU IS PROBABLY ONE OF THE SELECTION CONDITIONS.

THAT'S WHY I'M ALMOST CERTAIN THAT OWNERS AREN'T BEING SELECTED AT RANDOM. IN WHICH CASE...

ZENICHIRO IS MOST LIKELY THAT PERSON.

I KNOW FOR SURE THAT A SUPERPHONE OWNER AND I ARE LINKED THROUGH SHU.

I MIGHT BE ABLE TO GET SOME INFO JUST BY SEARCHING THE WEB NORMALLY SINCE ZENICHIRO IS A CELEBRITY...

I OUGHT TO INVESTIGATE ZENICHIRO'S HISTORY TOO.

SHU'S...

...DEATH...

PLING

WSH

GOOD NI—

MM, *YAWN*... I'M BEAT...

THE FEATURE I'VE UNLOCKED IS...

...*GOOGUGU SNS.*

Stage 4: Unlocked Feature

You can now send messages back and forth with Googugu Smartphone owners on your friend list through Googugu SNS.

Any voice or text messages on SNS will be Security-protected.

ENCOUNTERING AN OWNER BROUGHT ME TO STAGE 4.

Googugu SNS

You became friends with No. 4.

Okay.

TAP

THIS MUST BE MOURA.

Add "??" as a friend?

05/29/2022 9 07 PM

YES

NO

PLING

HUH?

WHA?

PLIP

Q Googugu SNS

3

4

8

9

11

12

YOU'RE JUST DIGGING YOURSELF INTO A DEEPER HOLE.

Guess this is payback for leaving you in the park, huh?

AH, ARE YOU WORRIED THAT THEY'RE SIMILAR? SINCE "KYU" IS "NINE" IN JAPANESE?

KYU... 9...

HUH? WHY, WHATEVER DO YOU MEAN?

DON'T YOU THINK ASSIGNING ME NO. 9 JUST BECAUSE MY NAME IS "KYU" IS A LITTLE *TOO* ON THE NOSE?

I ASSUME I'M NO. 9 ON THIS, RIGHT?

HE'S ALREADY SENT ME MESSAGES.

4

NO. 4 MUST BE MOURA.

...THEN ZENICHIRO SHOULD BE NO. 1 SINCE "ICHI" IS "ONE" IN JAPANESE.

IF THAT STUPID LITTLE WORDPLAY FACTORED IN YOUR NUMBER...

MAYBE I'M JUST OVER-THINKING THINGS.

BUT THAT DOESN'T SEEM TO BE TRUE HERE.

But as of today you're one too, Pseudonym! You have the honor of being a TRUE Moura friend♪

HMM...

HE OPENED HIS HEART UP TO ME EVEN THOUGH HE ONLY KNOWS MY ALIAS.

Thanks to you, Pseudonym, all the police officers have been so kind ta me! ♪

Thanks! ♫

I only really had one real friend this entire time lolololololol (but rly sadge)

But as of today, you're one too, Pseudonym! You have the honor of being a TRUE Moura friend ♪

Thank ya for bein' a friend ♫ Okey dokes, see ya latur alligatur ♬

FOOM

4

...DOES MAKE-ME WORRIED.

THE WAY MOURA-ACTS REALLY...

!

WHICH MEANS, HE...

...JUST HAD HIS SUPERPHONE REVOKED?

Googugu SNS

3

8 9

11 12

NO. 4 IS BLACKED OUT.

SWF

SWF

A BATTLE BETWEEN SUPERPHONE OWNERS IS TOO DANGEROUS.

THIS IS GOOD. THIS IS THE SAFER OPTION FOR MOURA.

GAINING INFO EARLY IS A WEAPON IN ITSELF...

SO I ASSUME THAT HE KNEW I HADN'T UNLOCKED THE SNS FEATURE BACK THEN.

...BUT I LEARNED THAT JUST FROM THIS PAGE.

ZENICHIRO SAID THAT HE WOULD TELL US HOW MANY SUPERPHONE HOLDERS THERE WERE...

...TWELVE IN TOTAL.

AS FAR AS SUPERPHONE HOLDERS GO, MY GUESS IS THERE ARE...

THIS IS THE ONLY PAGE ON THE GOOGUGU SNS.

"...IS SOMETHING I COULD EASILY DIVULGE TO YOU."

"HOW MANY OWNERS THERE ARE TOTAL..."

...EITHER 3, 8, 11, OR 12...

AND OF COURSE, OUT OF THOSE FOUR...

BUT SINCE WE'RE NOT FRIENDS HERE, I CAN'T CALL OR TEXT THEM YET.

MAYBE, MAYBE NOT.

THERE ARE FOUR OTHER SUPERPHONE HOLDERS THAT'VE UNLOCKED THE SNS FEATURE.

ALSO ...

...IS ZENICHIRO.

3

8

11

12

...IS GRAYED OUT.

TAP

I NOTICED THAT THIS BUTTON HERE...

LASTLY ...

PLUS, HE HAS AT LEAST ONE MORE LACKEY.

Googugu SNS

Please wait until all users are assembled for [redacted].

11 17

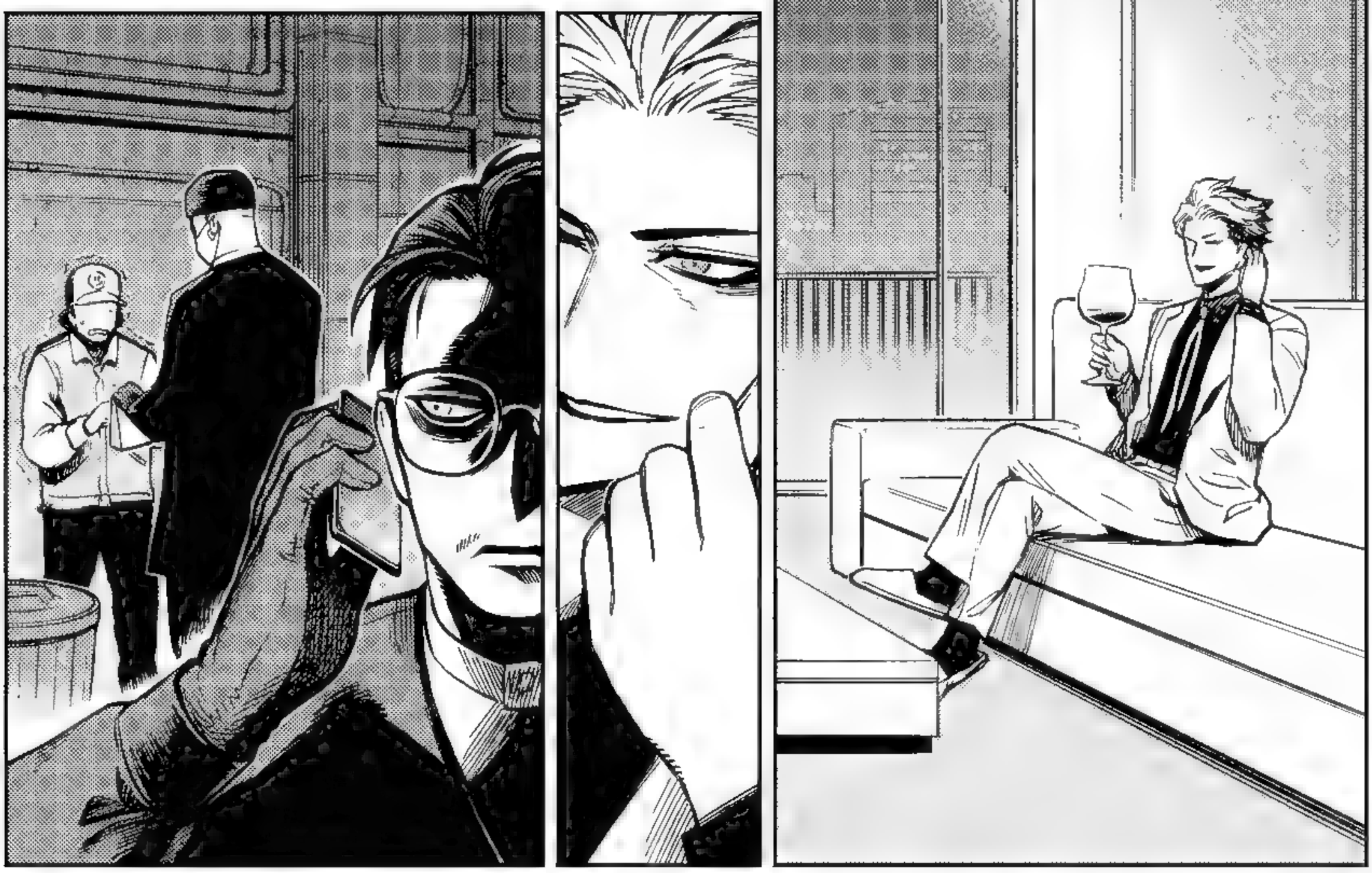
...THE FINAL FEATURE OF GOOGUGU SNS IS...

IT'S LIKELY BECAUSE ...

...DECIDED AGAINST IT THE WHOLE TIME.

THERE WAS ANOTHER REASON WHY ZENICHIRO, DESPITE BEING ABLE TO REVOKE MOURA'S SUPERPHONE AND GAIN A HUGE AMOUNT OF POINTS...

NOW I GET IT. THIS IS WHY.



Chapter 15: Revocation Penalty

LISTEN, I AM GOING TO HONOR MY PROMISE WITH PSEUDO-NYM.
YOU'LL HAVE TO SLEEP HERE TONIGHT.
SORRY. WE COULDN'T PREPARE ANY OTHER ACCOM-MODATIONS.

...NAGI SEO-MIZU...

THAT IS SOME-THING THAT I...

...AND PUT YOU UNDER CAREFUL PROTEC-TION AS A WITNESS IN A VERY IMPORTANT CASE.

WE'LL TAKE CARE OF WIPING YOUR PAST CRIMES...

WE'RE USING SOMETHING CALLED EXTRA-LEGAL MEASURES.

...GUARANTEE YOU WITH MY *LIFE*.

I'VE CONTACTED THEM ALREADY. THEY SAID THEY'LL BE HERE FIRST THING TOMORROW.

...

THEY MIGHT JUST BE WORRIED ABOUT ME.

BUT, UM, I WOULD LIKE TO CALL MY PARENTS THOUGH.

NO, I'LL TAKE MY PUNISH-MENT LIKE I SHOULD.

I WAS IN THE WRONG.

HUH? YOU'RE "TOO BUSY RIGHT NOW"?!

THAT'S RARE! ♪

OH, REALLY ?!

WHAD-DAYA MEAN, "WELL, IN THAT CASE"?

GAH, DAM-MIT ...

...WE WILL BE THERE.

OH... YES, WELL, IN THAT CASE...

THIS IS YOUR ***SON*** WE'RE TALKING ABOUT!

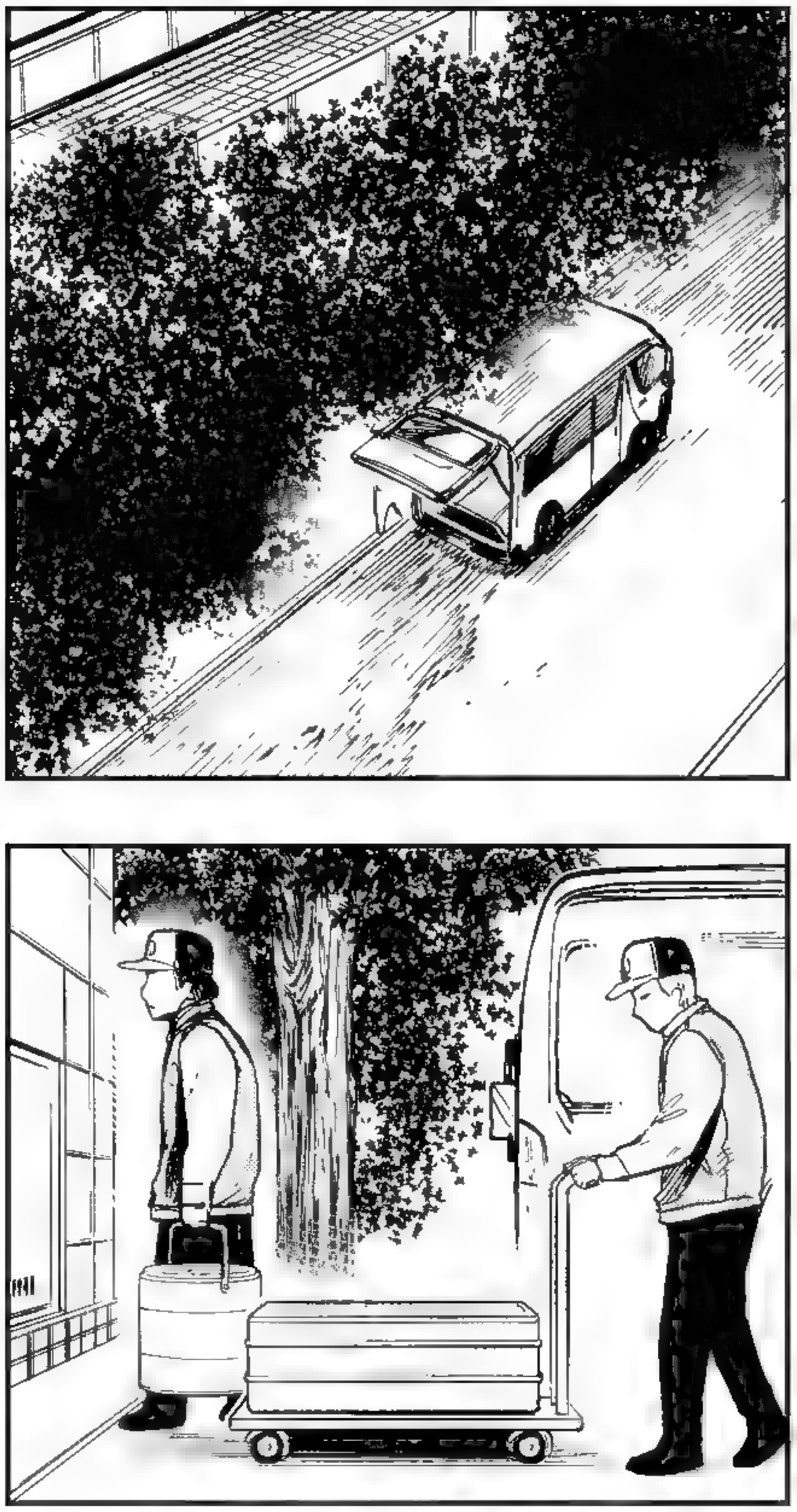
NOTHING YOU'RE DOING IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN THIS!

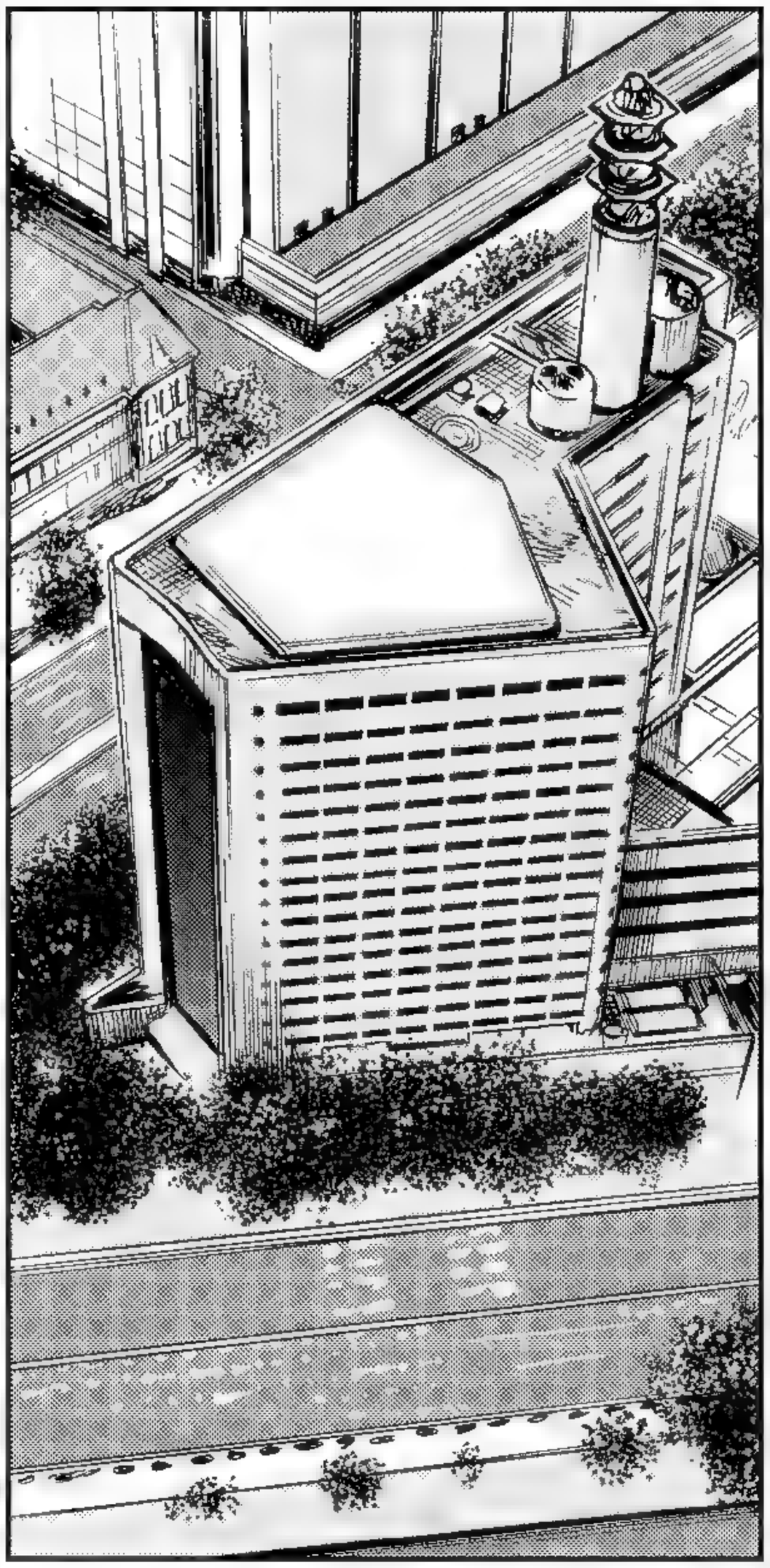
...

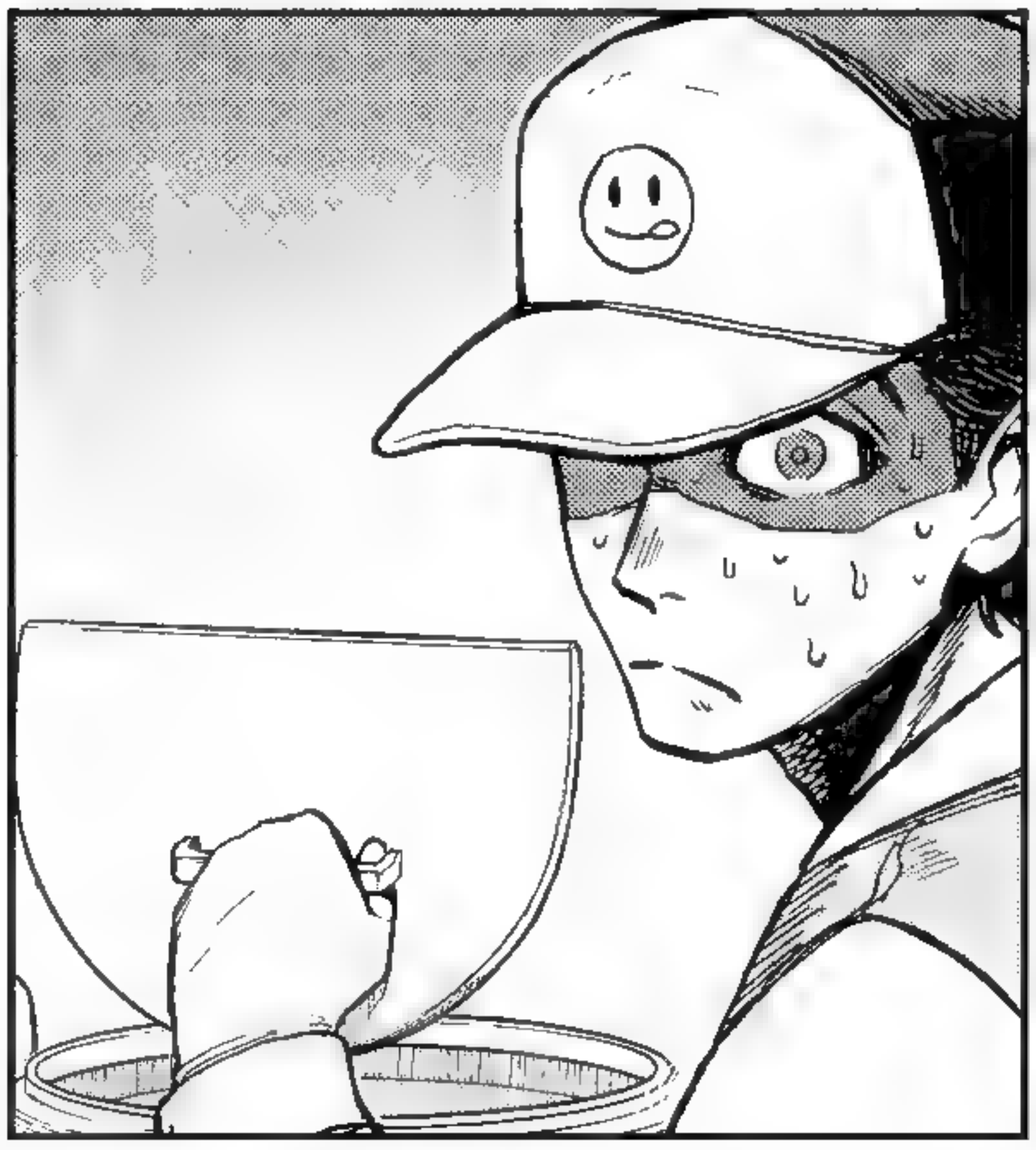
OH, WAIT, I MEANT LAISSEZ-FAIRE! ♫

AHA AHA AHA

MY PARENTS ARE ALWAYS LAZY FAIR!







ZZZ
ZZZ
ZZZ
CHIRP
CHIRP
チュン
チュン
BLINK
110
HUH?
NO, I JUST REALIZED SOME-THING!
GOOD MORNING, Q.
OH CRAP!
THIS IS BAD, BAD, BAD!!
THIS IS BAD.
DID YOU HAVE A BAD DREAM?
WSH

CALL MS. SEO-MIZU!

KIMI!

RIGHT AWAY.

...

MS. SEO-MIZU?!

HELLO?!

HELLO?

IT'S ME, PSEUDO-NYM! WHERE'S MOURA? IS HE—

I'M SORRY.

THIS MORNING...

MOURA WAS...

...

MURDERED.

THE FOUR DETAINEES DOWN THERE, INCLUDING MOURA, ALL DIED.

APPARENTLY, THE MEAL SERVED IN THE BULLPEN WAS POISONED.

IT'S ZENICHIRO.

HE USED HIS SUPERPHONE TO DIG UP ENOUGH DIRT ON A PERSON TO COERCE THEM INTO POISONING MOURA.

THE PERSON IN CHARGE OF DELIVERING THE MEAL WAS ALSO FOUND DEAD IN THE COMPANY GARAGE.

LIKELY SUICIDE.

BY DRINKING THE SAME POISON.

PLIP

...UNDER-STAND.

I...

...AS LONG AS THEY HAD A SECRET, BIG ENOUGH FOR ZENICHIRO TO EXPLOIT.

COULD'VE BEEN A POLICE OFFICER, COULD'VE BEEN A CHEF...

IT DOESN'T MATTER WHO HE BLACK-MAILED.

AAAA

BUT I JUST...

I NEEDED TO PROTECT MOURA!

I KNEW HOW DANGEROUS THE SUPER-PHONES AND ZENICHIRO WERE.

I MADE MOURA TURN HIMSELF IN TO THE POLICE.

PLING

Googugu Points

rch Results

Total 165 P

oints History)

05/29/22 (Sun.)

23:09… Revoked an owner's superphone (100 P)
Seized points held by Owner No. 4 (19 P)

100

100

...

PLUS ...

IF THAT'S HOW THIS WORKS, THEN YOU COULD PRETTY MUCH MAX OUT ON POINTS BY REVOKING PHONES AND SEIZING POINTS FROM THE OTHER 11 OWNERS.

ALSO, *SEIZED* POINTS?

A HUNDRED POINTS?

I'M SUCH AN IDIOT. THERE'S NO POINT IN MUSING OVER THAT NOW. IT'S TOO LATE.

BECAUSE MOURA'S DEAD.

FLOP

PLING

FIRST SHU, AND NOW MOURA...

I COULDN'T PROTECT *EITHER* OF THEM.

...

UH-
HUH...

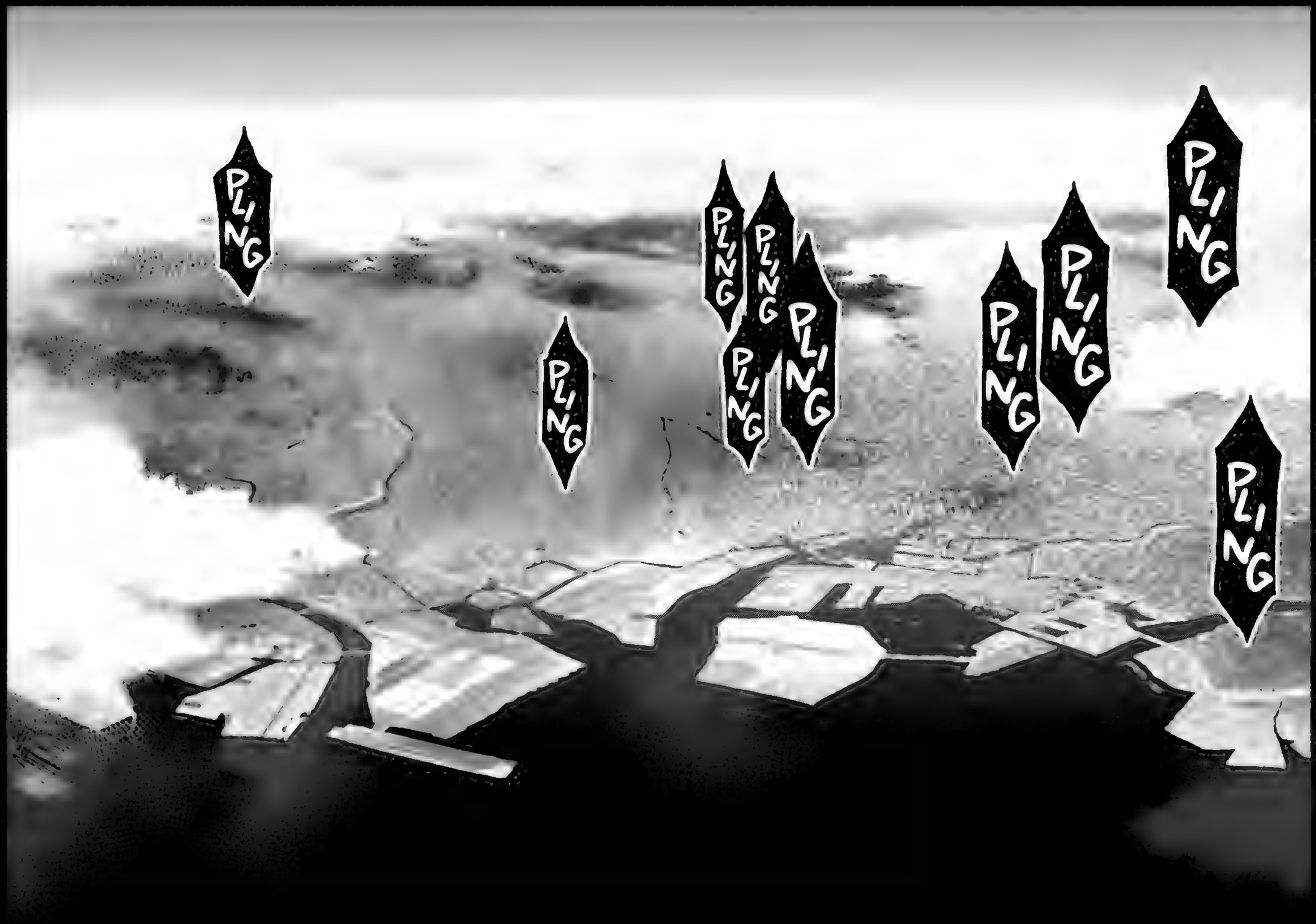
...

Revocation Notification

No. 4
has had their Goog
Smartphone revok

Q...

YOU HAVE A NEW... NOTIFI-CATION.


PLING
PLING
PLING
PLING
PLING
PLING
PLING
PLING
PLING
PLING

IT'S FINE.

THESE POINTS WERE SUPPOSED TO BE YOURS.

I'M SORRY, SIR.

IT'LL ALL WORK OUT.

TADAYOSHI IMURA (20)
NO. 11
TOKYO UNIVERSITY
DEPT. OF MEDICINE,
THIRD-YEAR

WELL, WELL...

A GENERAL NOTIFI-CATION.

ZENICHIRO KANGAN (24)
NO. 3
ZEN CO., LTD
PRESIDENT AND CEO

KOKORO SEIKE (17)
NO. 2
JUST CHATTING YUUTUBER
"SENTIMENTAL SETSUNA"
(JUST CHATTING LIVESTREAM)
KATORI WEST HIGH SCHOOL,
SECOND-YEAR

BUT I CAN'T! ♡

WHAT IS IT? SOUNDS SPICY!

I WANNA TELL ALL OF YOU!

WOW! THIS IS HUGE NEWS!!

...THEN, THE TOTAL NUMBER OF OWNERS MUST BE KEY INFORMATION, RIGHT?

IF THEY'RE SENDING A NOTIFICATION ABOUT THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE DROPPING...

DON'T WORRY. I'LL LOOK AT IT LATER.

YU, YOUR PHONE RANG.

A GENERAL NOTIFICATION, EH? THE SUPERPHONE BOOKER IS ENDORSING US TO FIGHT THEN.

JUN SAKUIKE (24)
NO. 6
HOSTESS ALIAS:
"JUNI AINOIKE"

YUKI UKIHASHI (18)
NO. 1
URANAMI HIGH SCHOOL,
THIRD-YEAR

RIKI HAKARIYAMA (28)
NO. 5
RING NAME:
"RIKIYAMA LEO"

ZZZ

HEY, REI! WAKE UP! THINGS ARE MOVING!

KEN MOCHIZUKI (19)
NO. 8
HARAJUKU SHOP ATTENDANT
NICKNAME: "BOKEN"

REI TANZAWA (15)
NO. 12
SANCHAGENYA HIGH SCHOOL, FIRST-YEAR
MUSIC YUUTUBER "RANCHUU"

I'M GUESSING THEY REVOKED MOURA'S PHONE.

PRETTY SURE IT WAS NO. 9 WHO DID IT.

AAAARF BLWCH BLWCH

W-W-W...

WHAT DO I DO?

THERE HAVE BEEN OTHER SUPERPHONE USERS?

HUH?

NAKABA YAGI (14)
NO. 10
HACHIKOJI-JO MIDDLE SCHOOL, THIRD-YEAR
NICKNAME: "YAGIPAN"

...

TETSUME AKAJO (21)
NO. 7
BRITAIN UNIVERSITY POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPT., FOURTH-YEAR
(CURRENTLY ON LEAVE OF ABSENCE)

KILLING A SUPERPHONE HOLDER IS WORTH A LOT OF POINTS.

I KNEW IT.

NEVER-THELESS...

BUT...

FPFFT

Zenichiro's Current Googugu Points

Total 202P

(Points History)

05/30/2022 (Mon.)
7:23...
Killed former owner (85 P)

AAAHA!

HEEE HA HA HA

GOD, I'M DYING OVER HERE! ♪

HA HA HA HA

KILLING MOURA...

...WAS WORTH 85 POINTS!

EVEN TWO POINTS WOULD'VE BEEN TOO MUCH FOR THAT IDIOT'S HEAD!

AAH

HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA

WHAT YOU NEED IN ORDER TO SURVIVE THIS FIGHT ARE...

...

OWNERS

...

...THAT ARE ON YOUR SIDE!

Chapter 16: Second Phase

BUT HERE'S THE THING. WHILE THOSE CRIMES HAVE BEEN GOING ON...
...THERE'S BEEN A WHOLE BUNCH OF OTHER SHADY STUFF HAPPENING BEHIND THE SCENES!

YEAH! EVER SINCE THE HIGH-RISE INCIDENT, THEY'VE BEEN SPRINGING UP EVERY DAY IN PLACES ALL OVER JAPAN.
That whole "you can't get caught in a big group" idea?
YOU MEAN ANOTHER "FLASH ROB"?
YIKES, IT'S GETTING ROUGH HERE!

AAH, YEAH. SOME EVEN COMMITTED SUICIDE.

COMPANY PRESIDENTS AND POLITICIANS HAVE BEEN RESIGNING ONE AFTER ANOTHER.

COMPANY PRESIDENT WHO ADMITTED CORRUPTION AND RESIGNED COMMITS SUICIDE

WOW, THAT'S A LOAD OFF MY MIND!

A WHOLE GANG OF WIRE TRANSFER SCAMMERS GOT ARRESTED!

DONE.

...AND REPORT.

'KAY ATTACH A LIST OF THE PEOPLE IN THOSE OFFICES...

WAIT, ALL LINES?

ALL TRAIN LINES IN THE TOKYO AREA ARE SUSPENDED!

SETSUNA! SHE'S TRENDING NOW!

AND THE YUUTUBER WHO CALLED THEM OUT WAS..!

WEEKLY EXPOSÉ BAKURO! NEVER FORGIVE!!! CORRUPT

THE ENTIRE EDITORIAL STAFF AT AN EXPOSÉ MAGAZINE HAD THEIR DIRTY LAUNDRY AIRED AND GOT PUT ON HIATUS.

...BUT SHE IDENTIFIED LIKE TEN OF THEM AND ROASTED THEM BACK.

A BUNCHA CRINGEY NERDS ONLINE WERE REPLY-GUYING AND ROASTING THIS POPULAR COVER ARTIST...

THE WHOLE THING WAS DEF STUPID, BUT SCHEMING TO GET A CUT OF MONEY FROM SOMEONE ELSE'S YARD IS HILARIOUS, LOL'OL.

"I'LL TELL YOU WHERE TWO TRILLION OF THE TOKUGAWA TREASURE IS BURIED, SO LET ME HAVE TEN PERCENT!" HE WAS TRYING SO HARD TO HAGGLE, LMAO.

THE DUDE WAS LIKE...

YESTERDAY, I WENT ON A RUN AROUND THE IMPERIAL PALACE, AND I SAW A YOUNG GUY IN A SPAT WITH A SECURITY GUARD.

HUH? WHAT'S THAT?

...IS PROBABLY *TOMORROW'S CULPRIT.*

STILL, WHAT I'M MOST INTO RIGHT NOW...

THE MORE PROACTIVE FOLKS BUM-RUSH THEIR HOUSES IN A GROUP AND CAUSE HUGE SCENES.

...ARE LABELED "TOMORROW'S CULPRIT"...

...AND EXPOSED EVERY DAY ON THIS WEBSITE.

PEOPLE WHO AREN'T LEGALLY IN THE WRONG BUT ARE GENERALLY ANNOYING...

Detailed personal info + Exposed info

Malicious scalper

Abusive upstart corporate chairman

Criminal with dropped charges out of court

...BUT I'M ALSO USING EASIER THINGS GEARED TOWARD CASUAL AUDIENCES TO CORRUPT JAPAN'S MORALS.

I'M NOT ONLY USING EVENTS FOR THE HARD-CORE AUDIENCE, LIKE CRIMINALS RAIDING THE HIGH-RISE BUILDING...

THUS, THE DISCONTENT OF THE KINDHEARTED PUBLIC MAJORITY ONLY SWELLS.

LOL, YEAH.

YEAH, BUT IF A NEIGHBOR OF YOURS GOT EXPOSED, YOU'D GO WATCH, WOULDN'T YOU?

SHEESH, THAT'S NASTY. THAT'S BASICALLY A LYNCH MOB.

...HAS A REAL MEAN STREAK IN THEM! ♪

THE GUY WHO COOKED THIS SYSTEM UP...

NATIONAL INTEL SECURITY RESPONSE TO SPECIAL COMPACT SUPER HIGH-PERFORMANCE INFORMATION EQUIPMENT (TEMP)

ITS NAME DOESN'T MATTER!

LIKE I SAID!

MINISTRY OF LAND, I

DO YOU *HONESTLY* THINK THE PEOPLE WILL BUY THAT?

WHAM

THEN LET'S JUST GO WITH "GOOGUGU SUPER-PHONE."

NO, THAT'S TERRIBLE FOR PR. IT'S HARD TO READ AND REMEMBER.

OKAY, HOW ABOUT WE JUST USE INITIALS? LIKE, *SCSHPIE*?

DEPUTY CHIEF CABINET SECRETARY

MINISTRY OF GENERAL AFFAIRS VICE-MINISTER

PRIME MINISTER!

WAIT! STOP!

I'M OUTTA HERE ...

THIS IS FREAKIN' POINT-LESS.

SIGH

I'VE HEARD ENOUGH. LEAD DETECTIVE, BRIEF EXPLANATION OF THE DEVICE. ***NOW***.

WE'RE STILL IN THE NAMING PROCESS ...

HOW MUCH HAS BEEN DISCUSSED? KEY POINTS ONLY.

SIR!!

TMP

トゥ

...

CONTINUE.

IT WAS...

...SOMETHING ***NO HUMAN*** COULD MAKE, SIR.

...BUT THANKS TO MOURA, WE KNOW OF THE GOOGUGU SUPERPHONE'S PARANORMAL FUNCTIONS AND A GENERAL OVERVIEW OF ITS USERS.

THERE ARE STILL A PLETHORA OF MYSTERIES TO UNRAVEL

WHO BUILT IT? WHY?

...IS THE PENALTY FOR LETTING INFORMATION SLIP.

IN ADDITION, THE BIGGEST PROBLEM WE FACE NOW

THE SUPERPHONE DISAPPEARS.

IT ISN'T JUST A MATTER OF HOW WE TAKE THE PHONE...

...BUT HOW ARE WE EVEN SUPPOSED TO CHARGE THEM FOR THESE CRIMES?

...THE PHYSICAL EVIDENCE WILL VANISH BECAUSE OF THAT PENALTY, LEAVING US NO WAY TO BUILD A CASE

EVEN IF WE ARREST THE HIGH-RISE INSTIGATOR AND TAKE THEIR SUPERPHONE...

BING BONG

ピンポーン

KACHK

ガチャ

MM...

HEY, YOU AWAKE?

Q STAYED HOME FROM SCHOOL, AND HE'S BEEN IN BED ALL DAY...

SPACE! UNIVERSE

MMFH...

IT'S THE TALK OF THE WHOLE SCHOOL NOW.

HARUKI'S BEEN TELLING EVERYONE HOW GREAT YOU WERE DURING THE HIGH-RISE INCIDENT AND BLOWING THINGS WAY OUT OF PROPORTION.

WHAT'S UP WITH YOU? IT'S RARE TO SEE YOU STAY HOME FROM SCHOOL.

Q...

YOU'RE HIDING SOMETHING, AREN'T YOU?

SO IF SOMETHING'S BOTHERING YOU, JUST LET ME--

I'M FINE.

WE'VE PRACTICALLY LIVED LIKE SIBLINGS SINCE WE WERE KIDS.

I'VE PRETTY MUCH FIGURED YOU OUT.

...ANY MORE CASUALTIES.

I DON'T WANT TO CAUSE...

...GET ANYONE ELSE INVOLVED.

I DON'T WANT TO...

I'LL JUST SPELL IT OUT THEN!

UGH, YOU PISS ME OFF!

LISTEN, Q!

NUDGE

NUDGE

ROLL

FROM EVERYONE!

EVER SINCE WE LOST SHU, YOU'VE BEEN RUNNING AWAY!

AM I RIGHT?

...SO YOU TRY NOT TO ASSOCIATE YOURSELF WITH ANYBODY.

THE THOUGHT OF LOSING SOMEONE CLOSE SCARES YOU...

STILL...

WOW, ACTING LIKE IT'S SUDDENLY DAWNED ON YOU. HOW CAN YOU BE *THAT* DENSE ABOUT YOUR OWN FEELINGS?

SHEESH!

BONK

HAVE I?

I'VE BEEN...

INSTEAD OF LIVING A SAD, LONELY LIFE RUNNING AWAY FROM EVERYONE...

I PROMISE YOU'LL ENJOY YOURSELF MORE THAT WAY.

...YOU SHOULD LIVE TOGETHER WITH PEOPLE, EVEN WHEN TIMES GET TOUGH.

...IF YOU OPENED UP...

WHILE YOU'RE AT IT, I THINK IT'D BE NICE...

...JUST A LITTLE BIT MORE...

...TO ME.

IT'S EASY TO GET THE WRONG IMPRESSION SINCE YOU'RE NOT VERY SOCIABLE...

...BUT YOU'RE REALLY A KIND PERSON.

YOU'LL DEFINITELY HAVE A BETTER TIME!

STAND スタ！

SPACE! UNIVERSE

CORRECT AS CAN BE.

MM-HMM...

...MS. YUIKA'S POINTS CORRECT?

WERE...

I WON'T LET THAT HAPPEN.

...AND I'LL LOSE EVEN MORE PEOPLE CLOSE TO ME.

IF I DO, THE WORLD WILL GO BELLY-UP...

I SWEAR...

I CAN'T BEAT ZENICHIRO IF I JUST KEEP FIGHTING ALL BY MYSELF.

EVERYTHING YUIKA SAID WAS RIGHT.

I'LL FIND PEOPLE!

STRONG ALLIES THAT WILL...

...HELP ME IN MY FIGHT!

THEN...

...RIGHT OUT OF HIS HANDS!

I'LL SNATCH ZENICHIRO'S SUPERPHONE...

THE PERSON WORTHY OF BEING THE DELEGATE OF DESTINY.

Goo gu

THAT IS WHAT I EXPECTED OF YOU, MY OWNER.

FIRST OFF...

...THE SECURITY CAMERA FOOTAGE AT THE TRAIN STATION CLOSE TO THE SCENE OF CRIME REVEALED ENOUGH.

ALTHOUGH HE'S THOROUGHLY SCRUBBED ANY AND ALL RELEVANT DATA...

...ASSISTED IN HELPING CRACK THE CASE OF THE KIDNAPPED GIRL IN THE WESTERN TOKYO CITY OF MUSASHI-YAMATO FROM POLICE SOURCES.

WE KNOW THAT PSEUDO-NYM...

JUST AS YOUR PROFILING DEDUCED, MR. ZEN-ICHIRO...

GIVEN THAT, I MANAGED TO NARROW DOWN WHICH TRAIN AND SCHEDULE HE WAS ON.

GOOD.

THAT COULD BE NO ONE OTHER THAN PSEUDO-NYM.

I SPOTTED A TURNSTILE OPENING WITH NO ONE THERE.

I ONLY ASK THAT YOU GRANT ME A LITTLE MORE TIME.

Musashi-Yamato
(scene of the young girl kidnapping)

③ Scene of Moura's arrest; Pseudonym arrived via bicycle

Tobu-Tojo Line

Narimasu

NEXT, I WILL THOROUGHLY CHECK SECURITY CAMERA FOOTAGE TO SEE WHICH STATION HE DISEMBARKED AT.

① Station where Pseudonym boarded after the young girl kidnapping

① ② ③
Stations closely related to everything; focus investigation here

Tachikawa

Chuo Line

Kichijouji

② High-Rise Incident
Some connection with Pseudonym?

Shinjuku

FINDING PSEUDONYM IS ONLY A MATTER OF TIME NOW.

IMURA MAY BE NAIVE, BUT HE WILL COMPLETE ANY TASK I GIVE HIM.

...USEFUL TO MR. ZENICHIRO! I'M...

GLUG GLUG GLUG GLUG GLUG GLUG GLUG

I AM EXTREMELY HUMBLED!

YES, SIR!

I'LL ASSIGN SOME PEOPLE TO WORK UNDER YOU. USE THEM WELL.

THAT'LL DO, IMURA.

DID YUIKA COME BACK?

DING DONG

LOCAL MILK

IT CAN'T BE...

HEY, YOU ALWAYS GOTTA SHOOT YOUR SHOT.

Would've been an easy 200 million.

AH HA HA!

BOKEN, YOU'RE A RIOT!

AND THAT'S WHY YOU WENT ALL THE WAY TO THE IMPERIAL PALACE?

WE'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU, PSEUDONYM, NO. 9.

OR SHOULD I SAY...

HEYA!

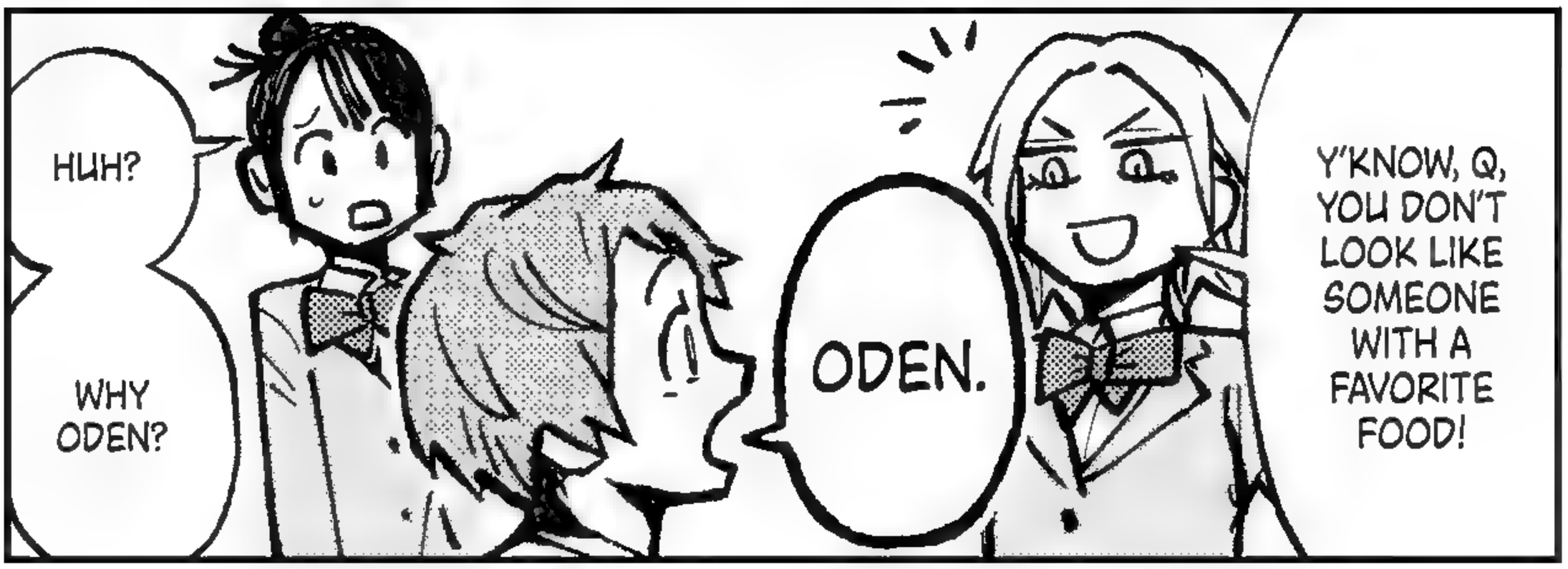
...KOENJI HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT, CLASS 1-2...

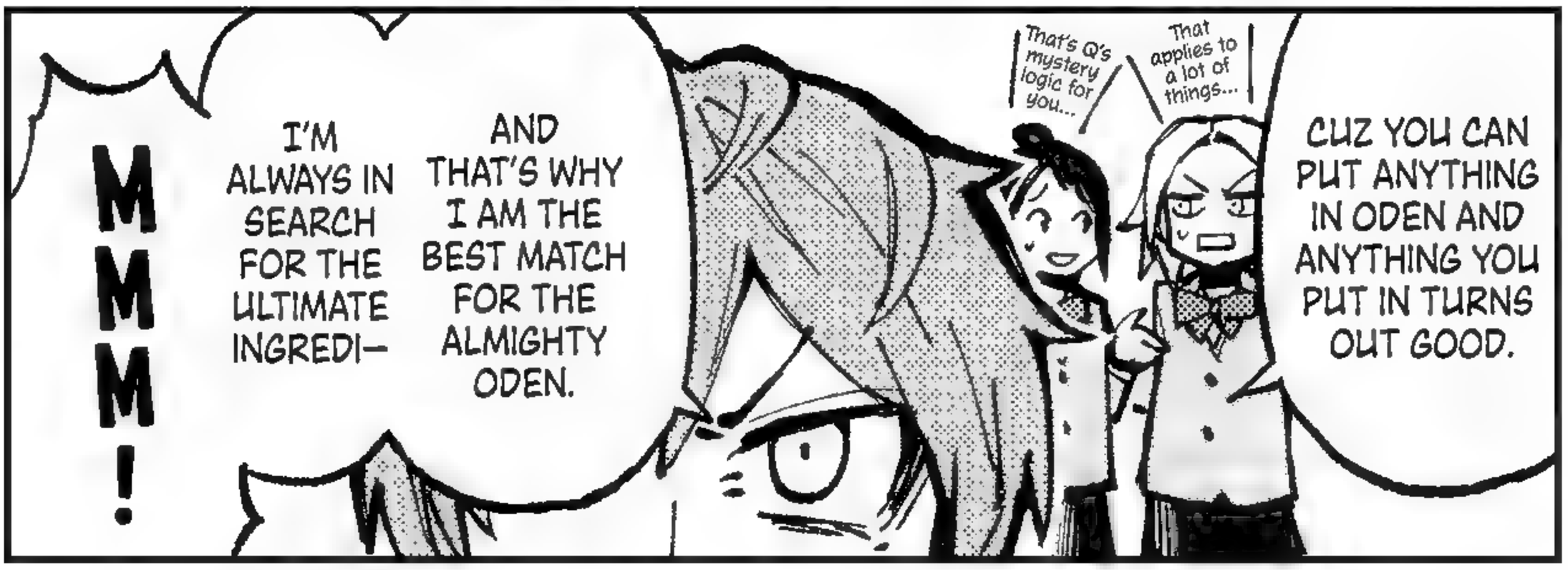
...KYU SAGURADA?

OR "Q," FOR SHORT!

Volume 2: Contact (END)

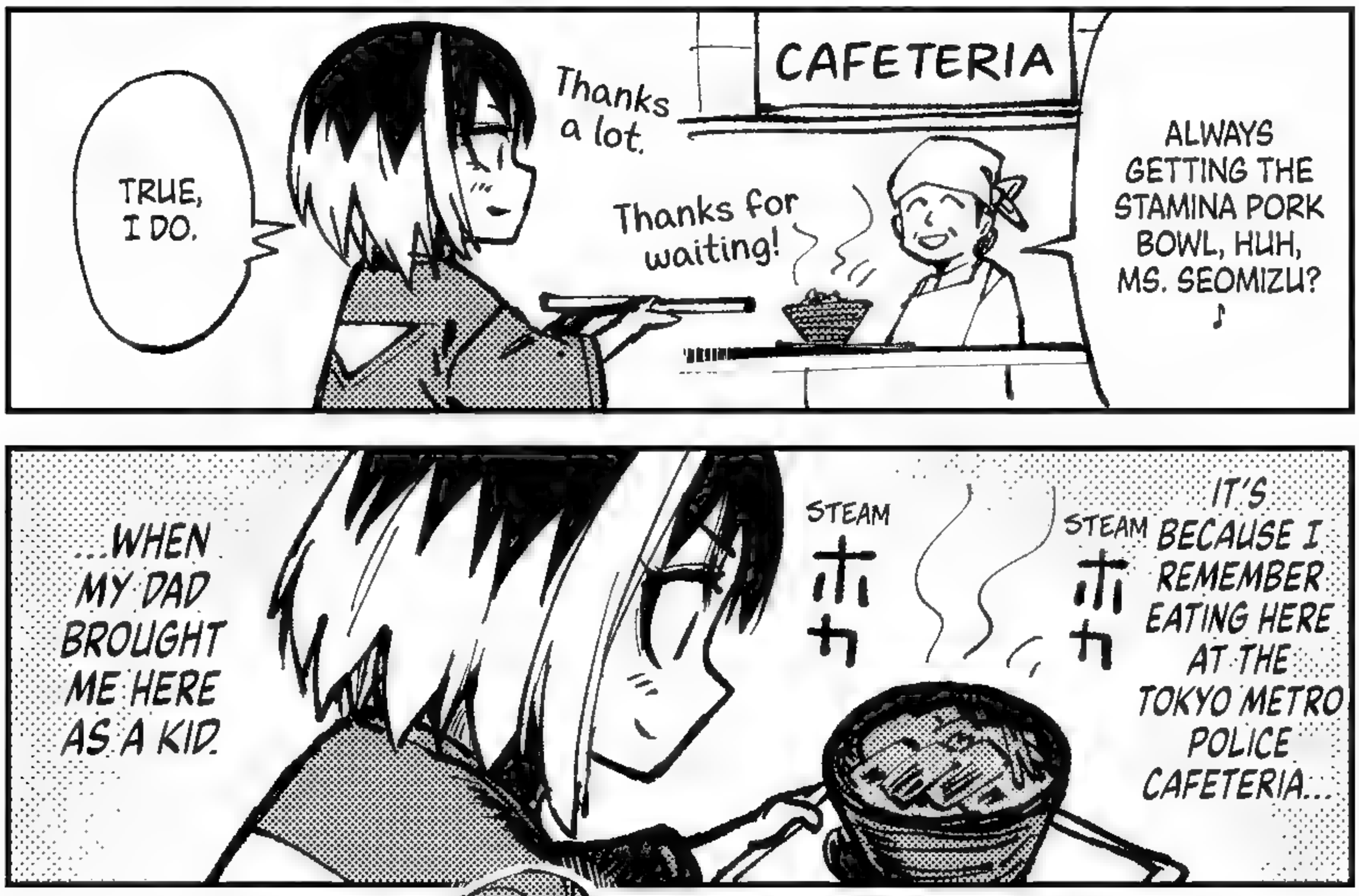
Favorite Foods (Q & Yuika)




MMM!
I'M ALWAYS IN SEARCH FOR THE ULTIMATE INGREDI—
AND THAT'S WHY I AM THE BEST MATCH FOR THE ALMIGHTY ODEN.
That's Q's mystery logic for you...
That applies to a lot of things...
CUZ YOU CAN PUT ANYTHING IN ODEN AND ANYTHING YOU PUT IN TURNS OUT GOOD.

I like oden too!
BY THE WAY, YUIKA LIKES HOTPOT BECAUSE SHE GETS TO EAT WITH EVERYONE.
I NEED POINTS!!
IN ORDER TO KNOW THE WORLD'S SECRETS...

Favorite Foods (Nagi Seomizu & Her Merry Fellows)


CAFETERIA
TRUE, I DO.
Thanks a lot.
Thanks for waiting!
ALWAYS GETTING THE STAMINA PORK BOWL, HUH, MS. SEOMIZU? ♪
...WHEN MY DAD BROUGHT ME HERE AS A KID.
STEAM
STEAM
IT'S BECAUSE I REMEMBER EATING HERE AT THE TOKYO METRO POLICE CAFETERIA...
AND EVER SINCE THEN, SHE'S GOTTEN A REAL TASTE FOR 'EM...
WAH HA HA
WHAM
I USED TO TREAT NAGI TO STAMINA BOWLS WHEN SHE WAS FEELING DOWN AS A ROOKIE!
RIGHT, NAGI?! ♪
I NEVER FELT DOWN IN THE FIRST PLACE...
...IS WHAT I'D SAY, BUT THAT'D BE A LIE, SO I HAVE TO ACCEPT IT.
YOU'RE PLAYING THE SENIOR CARD HARD...
...IS ALSO WHAT I THINK.
I DON'T REMEMBER THAT...
...I DON'T THINK.
TAIJI BINGO
A STRAIGHTFORWARD MAN. SEOMIZU'S SENIOR, BUT THEY'RE THE SAME RANK NOW.

What Can be Googugu Searched ①

I WAS ABLE TO LOOK UP EXCAVATED FOSSILS. HOWEVER, I CANNOT DO THE SAME FOR FOSSILS STILL BURIED IN THE EARTH.

PLING!

MANKIND DIDN'T MAKE THEM, BUT THEY ARE EXCAVATED, ANALYZED, AND CONVERTED INTO DATA...

THEN WHAT ABOUT *DINOSAUR FOSSILS?*

INDEED.

...HUH?

SO KIMI, YOU CAN SEARCH FOR...

...ANYTHING INTENTIONALLY MADE BY MANKIND AS INFORMATION ...

HMM?

THAT'S TOO BAD, YES.

I SEE! IT WOULD HAVE BEEN NICE TO FIND ALL THE UNDISCOVERED FOSSILS IN THE WORLD.

I WANT TO HAND YOU OVER TO AN ARCHAEOLOGIST PRONTO...!!

HUH?!

AAH, ANYTHING WITH LETTERS OR DRAWINGS ...

IF IT INCLUDES INFORMATION, THEN I CAN SEARCH IT.

FWIP FWIP FWIP

TH-THEN WHAT ABOUT THE STONE SLABS AND OLD MANUSCRIPTS MADE BY ANCIENT MANKIND?

What Can be Googugu Searched ②

SUBSTANCES AND STATES THAT ARE STABLE, DISTINCT, AND CHANGE SLOWLY...

INDEED.

...

APPARENTLY.

...HUH?

...THINGS THAT ACTUALLY EXIST...

SO YOU CAN SEARCH FOR...

Smoke signals are blown by the wind

Sound waves quickly dissipate

Brainwaves quickly do a variety of things

SIMILARLY, VOICES AND BRAIN ACTIVITY ARE ALSO UNSEARCH-ABLE.

AND VITAL ACTIVITY IS UNSEARCH-ABLE FOR DIFFERENT REASONS.

Hmm, I don't need to be able to search for smoke signals.

FOR EXAMPLE...

SMOKE SIGNALS ARE INDEED MANMADE INFO, BUT I CANNOT SEARCH FOR THEM SINCE THEY ARE UNSTABLE.

URK

AH, IS IT?

I SEE! I'D HATE TO HAVE YOU READ MY MIND. WHAT A RELIEF.

IT IS NOT READING HIS MIND.

??? GRRRRRG

YOU'RE ACTUALLY READING MY MIND, AREN'T YOU?! DON'T THINK I DON'T KNOW, KIMI! ANSWER ME!

SERIES

THIS KIND OF SUPER SMARTPHONE WOULD SUCK 3

THAT'S ONE SUPER WILD SMARTPHONE DESIGN.

SUPER SMARTPHONE

Q Contact

Googg

Story by Hiroki Tomisawa

Art by Kentaro Hidano

FITS ZENICHIRO TO A TEE, BUT IT SURE ISN'T SUITED FOR A WEEKLY SERIES.

JUST THINK OF THE COST TO DRAW THAT THING...

SERIES

THIS KIND OF SUPER SMARTPHONE WOULD SUCK 4

SUPER SMARTPHONE

Q Contact

SO IT'S, LIKE, EVERYONE *BUT* THE PROTAG HAS ONE, HUH?

HA HA HA

POOR LITTLE PSEUDO-NYM!

IS THIS GONNA BE A PLOT POINT?

Story by Hiroki Tomisawa
Art by Kentaro Hidano